MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

27 AUGUST 1982

Lebanon

Departure of PLO Forces -- The overland departure of Palestine Liberation Army fighters to Syria began early on 27 August, with over 60 trucks sighted along the Beirut-Damascus highway escorted by Italian forces, Beirut radio reported. The radio added that the road is guarded by French and Lebanese soldiers. Jerusalem radio confirmed that 1,300 "terrorists" are among the convoy.

Two more ships left Beirut port carrying PLO fighters, one transporting 177 wounded fighters to Greece and the other carrying 680 Palestinians to the YAR, Voice of Lebanon radio reported. Jerusalem radio said 4,400 "terrorists" have left Beirut in the first 5 days of the evacuation.

Weapons Transfer, Leaders Depart -- PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat gave weapons and equipment to the Nasirite military group Al-Murabitun on 25 August, the Voice of Lebanon claimed.

Beirut radio revealed that the ships sent to the Syrian port of Tartus included Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf and PFLP Political Bureau members Ahmad al-Yamani and Bassam Abu Sharif. In a statement to the London magazine AL-MAJALLAH reported by MENA, Khalaf affirmed that Damascus will remain the PLO headquarters and emphasized that the PLO must exploit its "big victory" in Lebanon.

Al-Jumayyil, Haddad Remarks -- The process of bringing Lebanese viewpoints closer through discussions must start within the next 3 days because the issue cannot wait any longer, President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil said in remarks reported by Beirut radio. Al-Jumayyil said he will safeguard democratic values and stressed the need for a strong Lebanese army and security forces. The president-elect subsequently sent a message to 'Arafat containing assurances about the Palestinian civilians remaining in Lebanon, the radio noted.

Meanwhile, in a speech over Voice of Hope radio, "Free Lebanon" Commander Maj Sa'd Haddad said that until the new president signs a peace treaty with Israel, the area of southern Lebanon from the Israeli border to the Al-Awwali River should be controled by the "safe hands" of the "Free Lebanon" forces or by forces acceptable to the leadership of "Free Lebanon." Deployment of the Lebanese Army in the south would be unacceptable because of its past association with the PLO and Syrians, Haddad added. When an overall solution is reached, he went on, the south will be integrated willingly into the whole country. Haddad welcomed Al-Jumayyil's election but maintained that it would have been impossible without Israel's Operation Peace for Galilee.

Citing remarks by a spokesman for Al-Jumayyil, the Voice of Hope reported that the new president will place Major Haddad in command of a reorganized Lebanese force in the south.

Syrian Position, Diplomacy -- Welcoming PLO fighters arriving at Tartus port, Syrian Prime Minister 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm said that even though the Israelis have brought in their "agent" to rule Lebanon, Syria will continue to support the "noble" Lebanon of the nationalist forces and will remain steadfast in its pan-Arab position. There will be no bargaining, no capitulation and no defeatism, he added in his remarks, which were reported by Damascus radio.

Following Kuwaiti reports that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's brother Rif'at al-Asad has visited Washington for talks aimed at averting a Syrian-Israeli clash in Lebanon, Damascus radio said his trip to the United States is for health reasons. According to the Saudi paper 'UKAZ, Syria is willing to withdraw its forces from Lebanon in accordance with an Arab summit decision if the United States guarantees an Israeli pledge to withdraw completely from Lebanon. However, the Israelis will aim to retain a 40-km security belt inside Lebanon, the paper noted.

In Damascus, the head of a visiting Soviet delegation praised the courage of Syrian soldiers in Lebanon and stressed that the USSR will continue to offer aid and assistance to those who do not bow to Israel and who are trying to reach a just and lasting settlement in the region, Damascus radio reported. The Soviet representative expressed satisfaction with the development of Syrian-Soviet relations and President al-Asad likewise said relations between the two countries are developing for the better, according to the radio.

VOP Broadcasts -- The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio broadcast an announcement on 26 August saying it will be confined to one transmission period daily -- from 0500-0700 GMT. The radio had been carrying an afternoon cast at 1500 GMT.

King Fahd Offer -- Saudi King Fahd sent a message to PLO Chairman 'Arafat, carried by SPA, offering to treat wounded Palestinians in Saudi Arabia or abroad.

Islamic Foreign Ministers Conference

The 13th Islamic foreign ministers conference in Niger declared that UN Security Council Resolution 242 is "incompatible" with Palestinian rights and is not a good basis for solving the Middle East problem and the Palestinian issue, SPA reported. The conference called for efforts to draft a new resolution stipulating Israeli withdrawal from all occupied Arab territories and the establishment of a Palestinian state under PLO leadership. The conference decided to establish Islamic offices for boycotting Israel and for military coordination with the PLO. On the Iran-Iraq war, the report said it was agreed in principle to use Islamic observers to ensure a withdrawal of forces to recognized borders.

Israel

During his current U.S. visit, Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon told Jewish leaders in New York that the chances of peaceful coexistence with the Palestinian Arabs have improved and that a Jerusalem-Cairo-Beirut "peace axis" will be established which will totally change the face of the region, IDF radio reported.

Egypt

Welcoming President Ronald Reagan's statements on Israeli West Bank settlements, Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said Egypt interprets UN resolution 242 and the Camp David accords as providing for the withdrawal of Israel's forces and civil administration to the green line for separating the West Bank and Israel, MENA reported citing AL-AHRAM. 'Ali stressed that Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon is a condition for the resumption of efforts to continue the peace process.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi paper AL-JUMHURIYAH reaffirmed that Iraq is determined to destroy any ship which approaches Khark Island, regardless of its nationality, INA reported. Meanwhile, IRNA asserted that oil exports from the island are continuing "regularly" and another loaded tanker left there on 26 August.

Iran

In an IRNA interview cited by Tehran radio, pilgrim affairs superviser Musavi Kho'ani reminded Iranian pilgrims to remain "vigilant" and to take an "Islamic approach" toward other Muslims during the pilgrimage. He also expressed hope that Saudi officials will treat the Iranians well.

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AS-SIYASAH REPORTS JORDANIAN-PLO COORDINATION

GF261704 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 26 Aug 82 p 1

[Text] Informed sources reported yesterday that one of the broad lines for Palestinian political action in the next stage will be the adoption of open coordination with the Jordanian Government. Moreover, bilateral preparations are currently being made to turn this cooperation into a strategic axis, beginning with the next Arab summit in Fes, and continuing throughout the course of finding a comprehensive solution to the Palestinian question.

There is already evidence that direct coordination between the PLO and Jordan has begun, such as King Husayn's personal welcoming of a group of Palestinian combatants who arrived this week in Jordan and the visit of Faruq Qaddumi to Jordan which began yesterday. The political media has information indicating that a new leaf has been turned over in Jordanian-Palestinian relations within a far-ranging strategy. This strategy may include formation of a joint delegation to the comprehensive peace talks that are being arranged in parallel with the Egyptian French plan that was presented to the United Nations, as an alternative in case the U.S.-Israeli veto continues on PLO participation in the next negotiations. These sources did not rule out the current visit of Qaddumi to Jordan may include preparations for the visit of PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat to Jordan which will reportedly take place following his visit to Paris after the summit.

'ARAFAT RECEIVES LETTER FROM YUGOSLAV PRESIDENT

NC250856 [Clandestine] Voice of Palestine in Arabic 0645 GMT 25 Aug 82

[Text] In Nicosia, Brother Abu al-Lutf [Faruq Qaddumi], chairman of the PLO Political Department, yesterday met with Cypriot President Spiros Kiprianou and President of Yugoslavia [Petar Stambolic] who is currently visiting Cyprus. They discussed developments of the current situation in Lebanon. The Yugoslav president affirmed that his country -- people and government -- supports the Palestinian Revolution to restore the national rights of the Palestinian people on their land. He said: Yugoslavia will not spare any efforts, through the Nonaligned Movement on all international levels and in the United Nations, to support the Palestinian issue and to provide all help to the PLO in all domains.

The Yugoslav president has given Brother Abu al-Lutf a letter of appreciation to Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] for the heroic struggle of the Palestinian people in the face of the Zionist onslaught. He also extended an official invitation to Brother Abu 'Ammar to visit Yugoslavia at a time convenient to him.

SALAH KHALAF ISSUES STATEMENT TO AL-MAJALLAH

NC261740 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1354 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] London, 26 Aug (MENA) -- Salah Khalaf, a Palestinian Resistance leader and Fatah member, has said the organization must retain at least a token public (?military) presence to serve clandestine action, particularly in the occupied territory and the Arab countries surrounding it.

In a statement to AL-MAJALLAH magazine, Khalaf said this presence is considered a basic guarantee for the continuation of the Palestinian Revolution, despite all the difficulties it will face in the coming stage.

He affirmed that Damascus will remain the headquarters of the Palestinian command. He said this does not prevent command movements among Arab capitals because we want to keep in touch with our people in the occupied territory, Lebanon and Jordan.

On Palestinian political and information presence in Lebanon after the Palestinian fighters depart from west Beirut, Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] stressed that Lebanon did not withdraw its recognition of the PLO. This means maintaining a Palestinian presence like the Palestinian presence in other Arab countries. He said these issues will be discussed with the Lebanese authorities in the future.

On his expectations of possible solutions following the war waged by the Palestinian Resistance against Israel in Lebanon, Salah Khalaf said the PLO has emerged from this war with a big victory that it must exploit to achieve the Palestinians' rights, including the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. The United States will be compelled to recognize the PLO, but it will try to force the Resistance to give up its military operations. In this respect, he pointed to the necessity that U.S. recognition not be at the expense of the PLO's political stand.

Khalaf expects a confrontation will take place between the Lebanese and Israelis because of Israel's next (?step) in Lebanon. He said Israel also has aims against Syria and might attack Jordan.

Khalaf expressed his conviction that Israel will continue its advance northward toward Zgharta, Ihdin and Tripoli with the aim of reaching the Palestinian camps there and the bastion of [former] President Franjiyah and the Lebanonese nationalists. He pointed out that all signs indicate that Israel will stay in Lebanon. He asserted that a confrontation between the Lebanese -- even those who welcomed the occupation -- and Israel is coming. Regarding Israel's intentions in Al-Biqa', he pointed to two possibilities: either a forthcoming inevitable confrontation with Syria or a bargain.
Khalaf affirmed that all groups of the Palestinian Resistance, except the dissident groups, have not carried out any terrorist operation since 1974. He warned, however, that the magnitude of the devastation that has befallen the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples, the continued ignoring of the Palestinians' rights and the increasing pressure on the Palestinians in the Arab countries regarding their residence and movements may lead to the emergence of revenge groups that will use violence to face the deprivation the Palestinian people are living through. He expressed his hope that such a thing will not happen and that the world and the Arabs will respond to the Palestinian people's demands and legitimate rights.

KHALID AL-HASAN HOLDS PRESS CONFERENCE IN LONDON

PM270749 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 26 Aug 82 p 1

[Hasan al-Laqqis report]

[Text] London -- Khalid al-Hasan, member of the PLO Executive Committee [as published] and chairman of the Palestine National Council's foreign affairs committee, has stated that the question of forming a Palestinian government is one of several topics that will be raised when an evaluation is made of the PLO's experience in the war in Lebanon.

Speaking at a press conference he held in London at noon yesterday in the presence of PLO office director Nabil ar-Ramlawi, Al-Hasan said: The setting up of a government-in-exile is now under consideration. This matter will be studied as soon as the PLO forces leave Beirut.

He added that having a government-in-exile was never a problem as such, just the timing. He noted that the Lebanese war has created a political vacuum which must be filled "with peace or violence."

He said the key to a peaceful settlement lay in convincing the United States that there can be no peace unless Palestinian rights are restored. Al-Hasan called for U.S. recognition of the PLO and for direct dialogue between the PLO and Washington.

He also said: The PLO will not support terrorism by Palestinian groups. We consider that what we do is not violence but struggle. This struggle against our enemy will continue. By this I do not mean terrorism of any kind.

On future PLO military means to be used in the continuation of the battle, Al-Hasan said: I hope this will not happen. It depends to a large extent on the international community, especially the United States. If the experience we have just had opens the way to a political settlement, and if the Palestinians attain their right to sovereignty and their independent state, there will be no need for violence or war. However, if, in the end, we become desperate, lose all hope of a political settlement, and are forced to resort to violence again, we will be able to do so without any Arab facilities such as those we had in Lebanon.

On Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil's election as president of the Lebanese Republic, Al-Hasan said: The Lebanese elections are a purely domestic affair with which we have nothing to do. We should give the man 3 or 4 months before we judge him.

HABIB CHATTI GRANTS INTERVIEW TO 'UKAZ

GF251216 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 21 Aug 82 pp 10, 11

[Interview with Habib Chatti, general secretary of the Islamic Conference Organization, by Nabil Abu al-Futuh]

[Excerpts] [Question] How do you envisage the next stage in the Middle East in the light of the final developments in Lebanon and through the Islamic role, which could be played by the Islamic conference, by putting aside the humane side and concentrating on the political role? Naturally, we note the organization's positive role in Europe in the light of the reply you recently received. However, some observers say Your Excellency's move is not complete in that it concentrates only on the United States and Europe. What is Your Excellency's reply to this?

[Answer] This is a reasonable question. The fact is that our activities have frequently been directed toward the West, particularly to the United States. We barely have any contacts with the Eastern bloc and the Third World countries. The fact of the matter is that it is only an appearance; that is, we apparently are directing our activities toward two areas: the United States and Europe. However, this does not mean we prefer one side over the other or that we like one more than the other, because we believe the support of the Eastern bloc and the Third World, including the nonaligned countries and others, is automatic. We do not need to make any efforts to convince them or attract their interest because our common enemies are Israel and the West. The strategy of our organization is to try to divide the West by taking different approaches with the United States and Europe to cause them to end their all-out support of Israel and to get Europe to side with us to some extent and break with the United States. This will result in the isolation of the United States and Israel.

On the other hand, our organization does not want to initiate a "blackmail" policy. We do not want to tell the Americans and Europeans that if they do not understand the Palestinian cause we will turn to the Soviet Union and the Eastern bloc because this would not achieve the desired results and not all Islamic countries would sever ties with the United States and deal exclusively with the Eastern bloc. We do not want to make a threat and then be unable to carry it out. Thus, we have given up this approach and are now concentrating our efforts on the United States and Europe.

[Question] Your Excellency, after the Camp David agreements, the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty and the Islamic and Arab rejection, some observers believe there are attempts by the United States to impose Camp David. Some analysts believe what is currently taking place in Lebanon is an attempt to impose Camp David through the weakest among the confrontation countries, Lebanon. What is your view on this? Other analysts even link what is currently taking place in Lebanon with the U.S. attempt to impose a strategic alliance on the region.

[Answer] Naturally, the United States, Israel and even France--because Mitterrand is one of those who are attached to Camp David and he has made no secret of this -- are of course trying to implement Camp David because they believe it is the only solution to the Middle East issue, because it is in line with their overall international strategy.

I personally do not think Egypt will continue on or revive Camp David because many things have changed. First, the Sinai has been returned; second, the individual who signed Camp David is no longer in power. The new Egypt, I mean the Egypt of President Husni Mubarak, sees no advantage in continuing the Camp David efforts. Egypt has no more to gain from it and I do not believe Egypt will continue with it. I do not believe any Arab will endeavor for or accept it. Therefore, it is they who want to impose Camp David on us.

[Question] Let us talk about the Afghanistan cause. Through recent developments, it is clear this cause has remained in the hands of a group of Islamic countries, which might be authorized by the Islamic Conference Organization or not. However, it seems no role is left for the Islamic Secretariat as an organization to represent this group in the current negotiations held on Afghanistan. We want to learn from Your Excellency about the recent developments regarding this issue.

[Answer] First of all, it is not true that the cause has gone out of the organization's hands or from the Secretariat's hands. Moreover, it is not true that there are people who are dealing with the Afghanistan issue instead of the Islamic Conference Organization. What is going on in Geneva today -- I believe that is what you mean -- is a result of the decision of the Islamic conference summit and is within the framework of the organization. It is the result of resolutions adopted by the foreign ministers in their recent sessions, particularly their last session in Baghdad. In Baghdad we agreed to initiate an attempt through the United Nations framework to demand the total and unconditional withdrawal of Soviet troops, and with regard to Afghanistan's sovereignty, the return of its people and the right of its people for self-determination. No one can discuss Afghanistan in a framework other than this. The meeting now being held in Geneva is within this framework and this basis.

[Question] There are some questions dealing with the cause of the Muslims in the Philippines, particularly after President and Mrs Marcos' visit to the kingdom and what was said about granting autonomy to the southern region in a way different than the terms of the Tripoli agreement. Your Excellency made some explanatory statements that were reported by foreign news in a way that has lead to confusion for those who follow this cause. We would like to know from Your Excellency what occurred after President Ferdinand Marcos visited the kingdom and what has been done regarding the decision on the Philippines issued by the recent summit conference and by the various Islamic foreign ministers summits because there is confusion about this issue and I do not want to go so far as to say there has been regression.

[Answer] President Marcos took measures within the framework of the Tripoli agreement. However, these measures were not complete in two areas. First, he executed them unilaterally while the agreement stipulates that the execution of internal independence should be with the participation of the front and the Islamic Conference Organization. Second, the self-independence in the Tripoli agreement applies to 13 provinces and President Marcos' implementation only encompassed 10 provinces. In this, the organization sees that President Marcos did not implement the Tripoli agreement in either spirit or letter.

Thus, the Moro Front has reiterated its demand for independence. It said that since the Manila government had promised to implement internal independence but later failed to do so, it has no hope that this government will stop the fighting. Thus, it demanded independence. The confusion stems from this. We are an Islamic organization which protects the affairs of Muslims in Islamic or non-Islamic countries. We have great responsibilities. We cannot agree to the division of a non-Islamic country and demand that a part of this country be designated as a homeland for Muslim citizens of this particular country. This would set a very dangerous precedent and might cause problems for all Muslims. We have minorities in all the countries of the world, and some of these minorities number in the millions. It would be very dangerous indeed if we supported the division of a state for the reason that the Muslim minority in that state are not granted their full rights by the government. We as Muslims believe a good Muslim is also a good citizen. We also believe that love of the homeland should stem from where one actually lives. The Filipino Muslim is a Filipino and a Muslim at the same time.

AL-'UTAYBAH COMMENTS ON OIL PRICE, PRODUCTION

LD211108 Vienna OPECNA in English 1010 GMT 21 Aug 82

[Text] Vienna, 20 Aug. 82 (OPECNA) -- Mani' ibn Sa'id al-'Utaybah, chairman of the OPEC Market Monitoring Committee, declared Friday OPEC's determination to defend both the benchmark price of 34 U.S. dollars per barrel and the production ceiling of 17.5 million B/D. He warned speculators witholding liftings in anticipation of lower prices that they were "wasting their time." Al-'Utaybah told a press conference following today's meeting of the four-minister committee here, that, "If necessary we are ready to go below 17.5 million B/D and establish a lower ceiling."

The present OPEC output of "less than 17 million B/D was an encouraging sign," said Al-'Utaybah, minister of petroleum and mineral resources of the United Arab Emirates. Al-'Utaybah said there had been "some violations" of the quotas for individual countries and appealled for strict adherence to the agreed figures.

Today's meeting also set up a special group of OPEC experts to study the problem of differentials. The group will meet in Vienna on 29 August and report their findings to the next meeting of the monitoring committee in Abu Dhabi on 20 September. Al-'Utaybah said after the Abu Dhabi meeting "political-steps and measures would be taken to reinforce the market and bring stability to it." He refused to elaborate.

OPEC was happy with the drawdown of stocks, which he said "amounts to some two million B/D". "We know this weapon has been used against us. Let those who have been using it continue to do so until it loses its effect. That day will not be very far."

KUWAIT

ARAB TIMES ON FEATURES OF NATIONAL ECONOMY

LD261200 Kuwait KUNA in English 1038 GMT 26 Aug 82

[From the press review]

[Text] Kuwait, Aug 26 (KUNA) -- ARAB TIMES on Kuwait's economy:

"Is it a compulsion that the national economy be monopolized by just six Kuwaiti families? These are the families that hide the real wealth from the people. One gets a glimpse of its magnitude only when they decided to show some charity.

"If this is the base on which the stability of the Kuwait national economy is built, then all that they said yesterday is nothing but the absolute truth. For after all, they repeat the same words, as though they were quotes from the Holy Book.

"If that be the case, Kuwait could as well close its doors to all but these handful who feel that others are simply not entitled to wealth and the cartel should be restricted to a tightly controlled membership. Once that is acknowledged, it will be no problem to tell a bare faced lie in the name of protecting national wealth and rights of citizens. Then other citizens needs only to be employees and clerks of the wealthy.

"There was no attempt to all to scrutinize the accounts of some very wealthy persons who withdrew cash from their banks to rescue a contractor who had failed. The securities he obtained from the bank far exceed his assets. But then, he was part of the cartel which benefitted immensely from the national wealth. He was supported from the money in the banks, though it is a public's trust that the banks hold.

"The Kuwaiti market is both stable and sound. It will not simply collapse because a few of the (?dealers) are up against financial trouble. For even in the best of economies, there are always cases when the big names land in trouble. Take a recent example in no less a country than West Germany, where giant multinations like AEG and Telefunken were neck deep in trouble.

"What is the harm if a handful of dealers [are] in difficulties, as far as the majority is stable and in a sound situation? The attempt to blow up the difficulties of a few to cover others, reveals an evil motive. People who still think of monopolizing the wealth of the country should put an end to such activities.

"We reaffirm that the Kuwaiti economy is safe and sound and that the national income is being shared by all. If some of these beneficiaries are in trouble, that is no reason to embrace everyone else in the name of protection. Any economy that has been building up steadily for 40 years cannot collapse overnight."

SAUDI ARABIA

KING FAHD CONTACTS 'ARAFAT ON PLO CASUALTIES

LD262334 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1940 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Jidda, 26 Aug (SAP) -- His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz has given his noble order for the treatment of the wounded among the Palestinian brothers who had been subjected to the savage aggression, in sympathy to them, and to share in their sufferings and alleviate their ordeal. Here is the text of the communique issued by the Royal Court:

In sympathy with the Palestinian brothers who were subjected to the savage Zionist aggression, and to share in their sufferings and alleviate their ordeal, his majesty the king has given his noble order for the treatment of those wounded among them as a consequence of this aggression, whether in the hospitals of the kingdom or abroad.

His majesty sent a private message to Mr Yasir 'Arafat asking for a fixing of the places where they want to be treated, so they may be transferred there. God safeguards his majesty as the pride of Islam and Muslims.

Here is the text of the message sent by his majesty to Mr Yasir 'Arafat, the general commander of the Palestinian Revolution:

To the esteemed Brother Yasir 'Arafat, general commander of the Palestinian Revolution, and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, fraternal greetings:

While greeting our valiant mujaheden brothers for the spirit of heroism and the staunchness and sacrifice they manifested in confronting the criminal Zionist aggression against their camps, a matter that will go down in history in illuminous pages, we pray to God Almighty to ensure their dignity and victory and to make their expectations and hopes come true -- the expectations and hopes of our entire nation -- so that they may secure their usurped rights and set up their own free state on their land.

In sympathy with our Palestinian brothers, and to share in their sufferings and alleviate their ordeal, we have issued our order to the interested quarters to see to the treatment of the casualties among them that resulted from the savage Zionist invasion, whether in hospitals in the kingdom or abroad.

Therefore, we hope to be informed about the places where you want them to be treated so they may be transferred there. We pray to God to bestow on them the blessing of recovery and to ensure the good and prestige of our nation, and to lead us all towards its dignity and victory.

PDRY

'ALI NASIR MUHAMMAD RECEIVES IRANIAN DELEGATION

GF261948 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, today received at his Presidium Secretariat office the Iranian delegation led by Mohammad Gharazi, Iranian petroleum minister. Gharazi delivered a letter from President Khamene'i of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the PDRY chairman on fraternal bilateral relations. Issues pertaining to these relations and means of bolstering them were discussed during the meeting. Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad gave the Iranian minister a reply letter for the Iranian president. The audience was attended by Brother 'Abd al-Qadir Ba Jammal, candidate member of the Central Committee and minister of industry, and Iran's ambassador in Aden.

COUNTRY TO ACCEPT 2,000 PALESTINIAN STUDENTS

GF262002 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Central Committee, chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium and chairman of the Council of Ministers, has announced our country's readiness to receive 2,000 Palestinian students of both sexes to study in the PDRY.

He said this yesterday during his meeting with 600 students who are being sent to Cuba to study in the Red Star School of (Lahim) Province. The PDRY chairman said: We have sent an invitation to Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] in which we showed our readiness to welcome these students as a contribution by the PDRY in support of the Palestinian Revolution and people under the leadership of the PLO. He said: Despite conspiracies to which the Palestinian people are being exposed, the Palestinian Revolution will achieve victory.

PFLO RADIO BROADCASTS CONGRESS FINAL STATEMENT

First Installment

GF190814 Aden Voice of PFLO in Arabic 1545 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Part one of PFLO third General National Congress final statement -- read by announcer]

[Excerpts] O our struggling Omani masses, O allies and friends of the Omani revolution everywhere. On 9 June 1982, the PFLO third General National Congress held its first session under the great slogan: For the sake of a vanguard organization, wide national unity and achievement of our people's goals of freedom, democracy and social progress.

Our celebrations of the 17th anniversary of the armed struggle of the glorious 9 June revolution concurred this year with a great event in the modern history of the Omani revolution and the national movement in our country: the convocation of the PFLO third General National Congress. This congress, which ended with brilliant success and victory, is the biggest celebration we have held on the anniversary of our revolution. It is our great salute and great fidelity to this dear and glorious occasion of our national history.

The third General National Congress salutes with great appreciation this dear anniversary; it salutes with awe and respect the revolution's heroic martyrs who sacrificed thier dearest thing, their lives, for the sake of the people's issue and the masses' interest so that the revolution might survive and achieve victory.

On this occasion, the congress lauds all patriotic political prisoners who are courageously resisting in the cells of the agent regime in Muscat and its imperialist masters and who refuse to abandon their national principles and ideologies regardless of all forms of corporal and psychological torture to which they are subjected.

The congress lauds all these and lauds their fathers, mothers and relatives, and extends to them its warm congratulations on the 17th anniversary of the revolution which is also the occasion for the total success of the front's third General National Congress.

While saluting all these and the various sectors of our struggling people -- laborers, peasants, shepherds, shopkeepers, professionals, revolutionary cultured people, soldiers, women, elderly, teenagers and children, in the homeland and abroad -- it also pledges to continue the revolution and the incessant and indefatigable struggle and that it will not spare any effort for the sake of the major national issue and to defend their vital interests for the sake of a free, independent, unified, democratic and prosperous Oman.

The third General National Congress makes a promise to our people. Its final statement affirms its binding and irrevocable word, aloud and strongly: We have promised ourselves and our people to remain revolutionaries forever, to struggle for the sake of the people's interests and the homeland issue and to struggle, struggle and struggle until victory or death.

The past few years witnessed more links to subjugate our country politically, militarily and economically with imperialist powers and its leader, U.S. imperialism. The British military presence in our country became more massive than ever; British imperialism tightened its control on all walks of life, both politically and economically. At the same time, relations between the agent regime in Muscat and U.S. imperialism made great strides, crowned with the signing of the agreement of 4 June 1980 in which the United States was granted permission to establish military bases besides use of military facilities in Omani airports and ports. This ominous agreement also included economic (?terms) which gave the monopolizing U.S. companies wide authority and privileges.

The agent Muscat regime was and is still heading forward with all might and without any reservations in serving the overt British and U.S. imperialism plots against the interests of the Omani people, the sublime interests of the peoples of the Gulf and Arabian Peninsula, the neighboring friendly peoples in Ethiopia, Iran and Afghanistan and against the interests of the Arab nation in its struggle against Israel and imperialism.

Our country thus has become a major forward position for the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force which is directed against the region's peoples. It has also become a bridgehead and a stepping stone for this force according to the dictates of the interests and plots by world's imperialism of invasion and intervention. Above all, our country is now under imperialist economic control and is now subjected to more ugly and unlimited economic plundering by multinational foreign monopolies.

Second Installment

GF191846 Aden Voice of PFLO in Arabic 1545 GMT 19 Aug 82

[Part two of PFLO third General National Congress final statement -- read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Our country is being enslaved and trampled upon by the military boots of imperialist invaders. Our national wealth is being mobbed and wasted as never before. Following the role outlined by its imperialist masters, this agent Muscat regime has and is still continuing it spolicy of full and conspicuous support for the Camp David accords. It is actively playing a variety of roles in the region, being an active member in the collusive U.S.-Israeli-Sadat alliance. In this role, Muscat has become the local linchpin for the Camp David alliance in the Gulf and the Arabian Peninsula, and a thorn in the side of this sensitive area's peoples who strive for freedom, stability, social development and security.

Our Omani people renounce these great national and pan-Arab treacheries committed by the agent Muscat rulers. We are sure they will confront these rulers with more power, national unity and various types of resistance, until the total downfall of this regime and the establishment of a free and liberated Oman devoid of foreign bases, and an Oman that supports pan-Arab causes, foremost of which is the Palestinian cause.

The agent Muscat rulers are fettering the hands of our people, throwing tens of their children in cells and depriving them of the right to assemble because they know the truth about themselves and the ugly crimes and treacheries they have carried out against the people. They know the Omani people and their glorious history of struggle against imperialism and foreign invasion.

The third General National Congress lauds the great past devotions of our people throughout the history of the revolution, under the leadership of the PFLO beginning in 1965 and continuing to the present. The third General National Congress is pleased with the various types of support, participation and aid offered by our people for the continuation and escalation of the revolution because it confirms its noble aims of all nationalist and progressive Omanis.

The congress notes it could not have achieved the verified victories and could not have survived without the support and aid of our people. The third General National Congress lauds the steadfastness of our masses against all types of suppression, disturbances, misguidance and campaigns of deception and terrorism initiated by the government of British consultants and its agents.

The Omani people's national unification and the enhancement of the revolution are the most active weapons of our people in their resistance against foreign intervention, foreign bases and forces, and against the destructive policies of the local agent regime. The PFLO will shoulder the major part of this historic responsibility and promises the Omani people it will struggle with a high, responsible spirit and with all its power for the sake of achieving this great gain for our people and their national cause.

Third Installment

GF220420 Aden Voice of PFLO in Arabic 1545 GMT 21 Aug 82

[Part three of third General PFLO National Congress final statement -- read by announcer]

[Excerpts] The third PFLO General National Congress strongly affirms its support for the struggle of the Arab peoples, the most important of which is the struggle of the Arab Palestinian people. The Palestinian question is a central issue for all Arab peoples. This issue is facing the most serious conspiracies and the most critical stage in its history. The congress reaffirms its total and unlimited solidarity with the Arab Palestinian people and with the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and with the total national rights of this people, foremost of which are its rights to return, to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent Palestinian state.

The Camp David accords and the unilateral peace agreement between Egypt and Israel have done nothing for Egypt except replace the Zionist occupation of the Sinai desert with U.S. imperialist occupation, while Egypt has lost many things for which it cannot be compensated.

The escalating moves being carried out by Arab reactionism these days to bring Egypt back to the Arab ranks is part of this conspiracy of capitulation. This move is not aimed at bringing Egypt back to the Arab fold against Camp David, rather, it is aimed at bringing the Camp David accords totally into the Arab fold. Any talks of Arab solidarity should be based on the firm stand of the Palestinian Revolution against imperialism, Zionism, and Arab reactionism.

The congress greets the steadfastness and struggle of Syria, Libya and Algeria against all threats, provocations and sabotage attempts organized by international imperialism, Zionism and the reactionary power in the region. The congress announces its firm solidarity with Syria, Libya and Algeria in their steadfastness and struggle against the aggressive plans, and highly evaluates their permanent and firm stand on the just struggle of our Omani people.

The congress greets the Lebanese National Movement and its magnificent heroic stand in defense of the Palestinian Revolution and the unity and Arabism of Lebanon. The congress announces its total support for the struggle of the Lebanese National Movement and highly evaluates its stand of solidarity with the struggle of our Omani people, and calls for more unity and cohesion among the Palestinians, Syrians and Lebanese.

The congress greets and expresses solidarity with the struggle of the Saharan people under the Polisario against the agent regime in Morocco, and for the Arab Saharan people's right to self-determination.

It greets and expresses solidarity with the struggle of the Somali National Salvation Front against the agent reactionary regime.

The congress greets the heroic struggle of our Arab nation in Egypt, Sudan, Morocco, Jordan and the rest of the Arab countries against the treachery and surrender of the agent reactionary regimes and in order to strengthen the steadfastness of the Arab nation and foil the fierce imperialist-Zionist attack.

The third PFLO General National Congress sees no benefit for the region's peoples in the Iraq-Iran war, and calls for the withdrawal of all forces to their previous lines and for the resolution of the outstanding issues through negotiation and peaceful dialogue. It calls for establishing relations of good neighborliness and solidarity between our Arab peoples and the friendly Islamic Republic on the basis of common struggle against U.S. imperialism and Israel.

The congress salutes the people and revolution of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and expresses the solidarity of the Omani people with the struggle of the Afghan people and their revolutionary government against all plots and acts of sabotage being carried out by Afghan counterrevolutionary forces through the total support and assistance of U.S. imperialism and its allies and the agent regimes in Pakistan, Egypt and Oman.

The conference salutes the socialist republic of Ethiopia and lauds its solidarity with and support for our Arab people's struggle. It proclaims the solidarity of the Omani people with the struggle of the socialist republic of Ethiopia against all imperialist and reactionary threats and plots. It also salutes the Republics of Angola, Mozambique Guinea-Bissau and Benin for the accomplishments they have scored against imperialism and reactionism. It lauds the escalating people's struggle in Namibia and South Africa against imperialism and tyrannical racial regimes. It announces its total support for the struggle by all African peoples against imperialist plots and attempts to intervene and against reactionary and racial regimes.

YAR

SPOKESMAN REPORTS ON PEOPLE'S CONGRESS SESSION

GF260910 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 25 Aug 82

[Text] The People's General Congress held its second session this morning under Brother Husayn al-Maqsami, deputy chairman of the People's General Congress. During the session, the chairing committee received the questionnaire forms that were distributed to members during yesterday's session and that included their notes on the charter.

The various committees continued meeting this afternoon to discuss their agenda topics in accordance with the tasks the congress has assigned them.

An official spokesman for the congress said the committee on envisaging political action is currently discussing the general lines and proposals (?regarding the tasks) that individual committee members had been assigned to investigate. The committee will submit its report on Thursday.

The spokesman said that during its meeting this afternoon, the charter committee began to (?study) the questionnaire forms the congress members turned in that contained their views and notes on the draft national charter plan. He affirmed that the study of the forms is proceeding well and that they showed the congress members have responded well to the charter. The spokesman said the charter committee will continue counting the forms in preparation for their final report that will be submitted to the congress. He added that the People's General Congress continues its activities in accordance with its agenda and that individual congress members remarked on their expectations during today's session and that these remarks were expressions of optimism and [word indistinct].

The spokesman said a harmonious spirit over the congress proceedings unifies its members; the Yemeni spirit of holding fast to strong national unity, [words indistinct] and the goals of the eternal September revolution and its genuineness. He noted (?overall) satisfaction among the people over the convocation of the congress can be seen in the flow of cables to the congress from the people containing their commendation of this important historical step by the leadership and stressing that the congress will achieve the expected success under the chairmanship and sponsorship of the brother president.

The spokesman added that the congress has shown all the conferees and the Yemeni people the seriousness of our democratic actions and the sincerity of the brother president these are means of affirming Yemeni identity as dictated by the times and the Yemeni genuineness and (?called for) by the goals of the September revolution. The congress has prompted the Arab media to follow this revolutionary national action and report on it. The spokesman concluded his statement by saying tomorrow's closed session will be full of discussion on members' views, particularly since the congress will study the committees' reports and what the committees have done with their assigned tasks. The congress will resume its meeting at 0900 tomorrow, Thursday. The brother members should be present in the Congress.

PEOPLE'S CONGRESS APPROVES NATIONAL PACT

GF261833 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Excerpts] The General People's Congress continued its meeting today under the chairmanship of Brother Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih, president of the republic, commander in chief of the armed forces and chairman of the congress, who opened the session in the name of God and the people. The chairman then asked the general rapporteur to read the report of the national charter committee. The report said the majority of congress members approved, in their questionnaire forms, of the draft charter after considering the remarks made about it.

Afterwards, the congress chairman put the draft charter to a vote and it was unanimously approved by the congress members. The charter has thus been approved by the congress as a theoretical guideline that will lead the course of revolution and achieve the revolution's goals for which our people have long been struggling and for which they have offered the most precious sacrifices. The official congress spokesman said the term of membership in the congress has been determined according to the following bases:

1. The congress should be reassessed every four years.

2. The congress will hold a plenary meeting every two years that will be called the General Congress. The congress will hold an emergency meeting should the need arise.

3. A permanent committee will emenate form the congress and will be praised overby the congress chairman. The committee's members will member 75. The congress members epresenting provinces will form a branch congress in each province.

Before the chairman ended the session, nominations were declared open for candidates for membership in the permanent committee of the General People's Congress.

'ALI: PEACE MOVES TIED TO ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL

NC262320 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2305 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Cairo, 26 Aug (MENA) -- Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has stated that in light of the official reports and statements made by American officials and the Israeli prime minister on the need to resume the efforts for establishing peace in the Middle East, Egypt considers Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon as one of the conditions for the resumption of the peace talks.

In a statement to be published by AL-AHRAM tomorrow, 'Ali says there must be a clear U.S. and Israeli commitment regarding Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon now that Menahem Begin has said that there will be no withdrawal before security arrangements are made and that the main parties -- the United States and Israel -- must define their positions on the following points.:

1. The situation regarding the illegal settlements in the West Bank and Gaza.

2. Autonomy for the population and the land.

3. The establishment of the right of self-determination for the Palestinians.

4. The implementation of the transitional measures on Arab Jerusalem.

'Ali adds that the United States is now requested to adopt a stand on these issues on the basis that it is a full partner to the peace process and that it is committed to implementing the Camp David agreements.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister asserts that in its evaluation of the situation, Egypt considers President Reagan's statements on the question of the settlements a good stand. He describes the presence of these settlements as unconstructive. The interpretation of Resolution 242 and the Camp David accords that the withdrawal will involve some lands in the West Bank and Gaza sector with the introduction of some alterations differs from our interpretation of Resolution 242 and the Camp David accords, which provides for a withdrawal from the West Bank and Gaza sector and that this withdrawal includes the withdrawal of the Israeli forces and their civilian administration to the Green Line, which separates the West Bank and Israel.

'Ali explains that 3 years of negotiations on these issues have produced no tangible results. He says that 3 more or 10 more years might pass without achieving these results if the United States does not express an opinion on them and if Israel does not change its practices, which include the dissolution of the elected councils, and its practices in the West Bank and Gaza sector that include the building of new settlements.

AL-AHRAM says Egypt is preparing a complete evaluation of the situation in the Middle East in light of the Palestinians' departure from Lebanon in accordance with the security guarantees the United States provided to ensure their safe departure; in light of the current conditions in Lebanon arising from the election of the new Lebanese president, the continued presence of the Israeli forces and the presence of other forces; and in light of the statements made by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and the contacts which Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has held with the French and Lebanese sides, including the representative of the Lebanese president-elect.

The paper says Egypt's ambassador to Washington, Dr Ashraf Ghurbal, is scheduled to arrive in Cairo in the next 2 days and that U.S. Ambassador Alfred Atherton will return to Cairo on Monday after having participated in the evaluation process which the administration of President Reagan has prepared regarding the situation in the Middle East.

AL-AHRAM refers to official Israeli press and news agency reports that the Begin government is hurrying the resumption of the autonomy negotiations, and says that an official Egyptian source has stated that the resumption of the autonomy discussions or that the Israeli foreign minister should pay a visit regarding this issue has absolutely not been proposed to Egypt.

GHALI ON PLO, ISRAEL, U.S., AFRICAN TIES

GF260802 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 25 Aug 82 p 18

[Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, interviewed by Husayn at-Tantawi in Cairo -- date not given]

[Excerpts] [Question] What are Egypt's objectives?

[Answer] Egypt and France have presented a draft resolution to the Security Council. The draft resolution was discussed and will continue to be discussed in the next few weeks. With the draft resolution, we hope we will mobilize international public opinion regarding the importance of dialogue and the importance of acknowledging the right of self-determination.

Furthermore, we have had contacts between the Egyptian Government and members of the U.S. Congress, as well as contacts with European groups. These contacts were successful, and the evidence of this is that in early June the leaders and governments of the 10 EEC member-countries decided to support the right of self-determination, recognize the PLO and state the necessity of holding a dialogue with the PLO.

Also, we made contacts with international Jewish forces, namely the leaders and members of international Jewish organizations that represent the real forces that greatly influence Israeli and U.S. public opinion. We were able to obtain a decision from some of these organizations and leaderships on recognizing the PLO and the Palestinian right of self-determination and on the necessity of holding a dialogue between the PLO and the Israeli Government. Moreover, we moved within the framework of the nonaligned group and Egypt participated in the meetings of the movement's coordination bureau in New York. In addition, we held bilateral contacts with a great number of countries in order to mobilize international public opinion and seize the opportunity of the Lebanese crisis to defend the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

[Question] Does Egypt support 'Arafat's statement that acknowledged the UN resolutions?

[Answer] Yes, Egypt supports this statement. Egypt has always called for a direct dialogue between all parties in order to ensure just rights. The Palestinian statement represents a step toward establishing contact between the PLO and the U.S. Government.

[Question] Are you working on holding a dialogue between the PLO and the U.S. Government in the near future?

[Answer] We have called for this. We have been working to achieve this for the past 5 years. Indirect contacts are currently taking place between some Palestinian leaders and members of the U.S. Congress.

[Question] Have relations between the PLO and Egypt been restored? That is, will the PLO office be reopened officially in the next few days?

[Answer] The PLO office is still in Cairo, and it has not been closed. Relations between the PLO and Egypt are normal.

[Question] Then why didn't the PLO announce its acceptance of President Mubarak's proposal to hold an Arab summit conference?

[Answer] This proposal is still being discussed by some Arab countries, and Egypt is ready to hold the conference once the responses of these countries are received.

[Question] Have you received any responses from some countries?

[Answer] We have not yet received any responses, but this does not mean that responses will not be received in good time.

[Question] Have you sent Egyptian envoys to Arab countries to discuss holding this conference?

[Answer] No, we have not sent envoys to Arab countries. If the Arab world wants to come to Cairo, it is welcome, but Cairo will not send anyone to defend this proposal so such an action could not be interpreted as Cairo running after the Arab countries.

[Question] With respect to the other bloody front in the Arab homeland -- the blazing war between Iraq and Iran, what is Egypt's stand?

[Answer] Egypt has tried by all means to propose peaceful solutions to this war and has resorted to certain friendly countries and certain international organizations and groups. Egypt has supplied Iraq with military aid within the framework of Arab solidarity. Egypt also made active diplomatic contacts in order to help Iraq internationally. More than a year ago I announced that Egypt would attend the Baghdad Nonaligned Summit Conference, and I have fought trends that proposed moving the conference from the Iraqi capital.

[Question] Are there bilateral contacts between Iraq and Egypt?

[Answer] There are bilateral contacts on the experts level.

[Question] What about the third blazing front in the Arab homeland, namely the Somali-Ethiopian war? What are Egypt's efforts in this regard?

[Answer] The objective of Egyptian diplomacy is to settle African disputes peacefully and within the African framework. Egyptian diplomacy played a very important role at the Nairobi conference last year with the aim of reaching a solution, even a temporary one, to this dispute. The African Organization [OAU] has failed to find a peaceful settlement to this dispute. However, this does not mean these efforts should stop, because we believe the settlement of any dispute should be a peaceful one whether via negotiations, reconciliation, adjudication or international arbitration; but we refuse to resort to violence and military solutions to settle international disputes.

[Question] In light of the special relationship between Egypt and Somalia, what are your efforts in supporting Somalia?

[Answer] We have made a number of efforts and we continue to do so. Some other Arab countries are exerting efforts in this regard for the sake of finding a peaceful settlement to this dispute between the two African countries.

[Question] A major question still looms. Why have Arab diplomatic relations not been restored with Egypt after contacts were made with senior political Arab officials in Cairo and by senior Egyptian officials in a number of Arab capitals?

[Answer] This question should be raised to the Arab countries. Egypt is not in a hurry to restore relations.

[Question] Will Egypt attend the nonaligned conference in Baghdad?

[Answer] Yes, Egypt will attend the Baghdad conference and will sieze this opportunity to continue to hold dialogues with some Arab countries about the Arab nation's urgent and persistent issues. And I tell you that contacts with Arab countries have been in progress since 1977 and are continuing. The only difference is these contacts were not made public until the past few months. Now, they have been made public.

[Question] Do you still support a Palestinian government-in-exile?

[Answer] We see that we should support any means that would aid the PLO and we believe a government-in-exile is one means among others which would aid the PLO in its struggle against Israeli aggression.

On Palestinian Question

NC261436 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] London, 26 Aug (MENA) -- Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali has stressed that Egypt believes the ouster of the Palestinians in the way that is taking place -- without hope -- is a real tragedy. In a statement to the London-based Arabic-language magazine AL-MAJALLAH, to be published on Saturday, Ghali says Egypt demands and will continue to demand that a more important step be taken than the ouster of the Palestinians from Beirut, that is, recognition of their rights and tackling the Palestinian question in a way that ensures the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. He states that Egypt also demands something else that is no less important than tackling the Palestinian issue -- tackling the Lebanese question. Ghali says Israeli forces occupy parts of Lebanon and control Lebanon's internal affairs, fate and economy and are also trying to dominate Lebanon's future.

Ghali points out that it is not true that Egypt fears the presence of the Palestinians on its soil or the rallying of the Egyptian opposition around the Palestinians.

AL-MAJALLAH points out that 70,000 Palestinians live in Egypt and the largest number of the wives, sons and sisters of the Resistance leaders live in Egypt, including the members of the families of Yasir 'Arafat, Faruq Qaddumi, Sidqi ad-Dajani and Sa'id Kamal. In addition, thousands of Palestinian youths are studying in Egyptian universities. Ghali asserts that Egypt does not fear Palestinian activity, but does fear the dispersion of the Palestinians and the people in Lebanon, and the liquidation of the Palestinian question.

On Beirut Evacuation

JN261807 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, has stated that there was no contradiction between the French-Egyptian moves and any moves by the forthcoming Arab summit conference. He said the most important result which might be reached by the Arab summit is on a project which could be a beginning for an Arab initiative.

On Egypt's position toward the Palestinian evacuation from west Beirut, Ghali said Egypt has adhered to linking this evacuation with negotiations to find a comprehensive solution for the Middle East problem and the Palestinian issue.

In a statement to the Saudi newspaper 'UKAZ, Ghali said the Egyptian position was taken in agreement with the PLO. He expressed fear that the controversy over a suitable solution will take a long time now that the Palestinians have left Beirut.

AL-AKHBAR ON LEBANESE-ISRAELI 'CAPITULATION' TREATY

NC270841 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0510 GMT 27 Aug 82

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] About the projected Israeli-Lebanese peace treaty, the newspaper AL-AKHBAR says: Israel talks about a peace treaty to be signed between Israel and Lebanon. It also says that Lebanese President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil has talked with Israeli officials about the ratification of this treaty during his numerous secret visits to Israel which, in accordance with official Israeli information, began in 1967. The Israeli press has also spoken of the expected treaty. It has said that Lebanon will follow Egypt in signing a peace treaty with Israel.

The paper calls attention to the fact that a marked difference would exist between the Egyptian treaty and the projected Lebanese treaty [with Israel]. This is because Israel is exerting pressure to bring about the signing of the Lebanese treaty prior to the departure of its forces from Lebanon. In other words, Israel would dictate the treaty to the Lebanese president and would write its provisions while a gun would be pointed at the Lebanese president's head. Furthermore, it [presumably Israel] would write [the treaty] in Hebrew only. Consequently, the treaty would favor neither the Lebanese people nor the Arab peoples. Naturally, this treaty would center on numerous domestic affairs encompassing Lebanon's relationship with the Arab world. Likewise, the treaty would deal with the issue of well over 500,000 Palestinians now residing in Lebanon.

The paper adds: The Egyptian-Israeli treaty was the fruit of a real Egyptian victory achieved against the Israeli forces in the 6 October battle. Furthermore, the Camp David agreements contain a constitution for ending the Arab-Israeli conflict; that is, [a constitution] for a comprehensive solution for the Middle East crisis. These agreements also opened the door to the Arab states to join the peace process from a position of power which Egypt first achieved through its victory in the October war and then through Egypt's contacts, international relations and the weight it carries in the Third World states, in the Arab world and in Africa.

AL-AKHBAR says in conclusion: Therefore, a comparison between the painstakingly-negotiated Egyptian peace treaty and a treaty dictated in the shadow of Beirut's siege while guns are pointed at the heads of officials to make them sign the treaty, reveals this is not a peace treaty but a capitulation treaty. Therefore, if Lebanon wants a real peace treaty with Israel, it is incumbent on Lebanon to join the process of the overall settlement, to break loose from the Israeli siege and from the dictating of provisions that would harm the Lebanese national interest and would foment a sectarian feud among the sons of the one homeland. Lebanon should hold a dialogue with Israel while being backed by Egypt's political and military credit and by Egypt's international relations.

SADDAM HUSAYN RECEIVES U.S. CONGRESSMEN 25 AUG

JN252013 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1940 GMT 25 Aug 82

[Text] Baghdad, 25 Aug (INA) -- President Saddam Husayn recieved this evening Stephen Solarz, member of the U.S. Congress' Foreign Relations Committee, and his accompanying delegation.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed a number of current Arab and international issues in general and the Iraq-Iran war and the Zionist invasion [of Lebanon] in particular. They also discussed Iraq's principled stand on international relations based on equality and joint interests.

The meeting was attended by National Assembly Speaker Na'im Haddad; Khalid 'Abd al-Mun'im Rashid, director of the president's office and Revolution Command Council acting secretary; and the director of the press and information department in the president's office.

PAPER RENEWS WARNING TO SHIPS APPROACHING KHARK

JN270837 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0614 GMT 27 Aug 82

[Text] Baghdad, 27 Aug (INA) -- We will hit any ship that approaches Iran's Khark Island, regardless of its nationality. We will not inquire about the identity of such a ship, regardless of whether it is Iranian, Israeli or any other nationality.

With this strong warning, AL-JUMHURIYAH, which is published here, today reaffirms that it is Iraq's right, after all the warnings it has issued, to hit with a free conscience, ships that ignore its warnings.

The paper says that after all these warnings, no repectable person has any excuse for defying Iraq, except, perhaps, those quarters that pursue piracy and do not consider the lives of the people working under them. The paper adds that Iraq will not care about the lives and property of such people, if they even exist. Henceforth, Iraq is determined to destroy any ship or tanker that approaches Khark, regardless of its nationality.

AL-JUMHURIYA explains that Iraq has repeatedly said that the siege of Khark is its legitimate right, and that it is compellled to exercise this right after Khomeyni's Iran continued the war and declared its intention to invade Iraq.

The paper points out that Iran has also blocked Iraq's only outlet to the sea for the past 2 years and hit ships and tankers entering or leaving Iraq. Iran has also concluded an alliance with the Damascus rulers, who have imposed an economic blockade on Iraq. The paper asks: Why shouldn't Iraq do the same to Iran?

AL-JUMHIRIYAH affirms Iraq's determination to cut off the main artery which feeds Iran's war machine and enlivens the dreams of the invaders in Tehran.

AL-JUMAYYIL ON HABIB MISSION, NATIONAL GOALS

NC261820 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] President-elect Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil has stated that he extends his hand anew to all Lebanese to cooperate with love and sincerity and a spirit of responsibility. He said: We, as Lebanese, can sit together at a table. If we cannot do this, neither envoy Habib nor anyone else can bring us together. He said: This is, however, an internal affairs and in internal responsibility. It is my responsibility as president, rather than Habib's.

Bashir al-Jumayyil said the process to bring views closer must take place in the next 3 days, because this issue cannot wait longer. If it takes longer, it means the future will be difficult. He said Lebanon will always be indebted to Ambassador Habib and President Reagan, who deputized Habib to come to Lebanon. Habib worked with utmost sincerity to deliver us from the problems from which we suffered.

The president-elect was speaking after receiving U.S. envoy Habib, who visited him at 1400 today in his home in Al-Ashrafiyah to congratulate him on his election.

Following the meeting, Al-Jumayyil was asked how he could describe his first meeting with U.S. Ambassador Philip Habib since his election as president of the republic. He said: There has been a specific habit Ambassador Habib has followed. I would like to maintain this habit, that is, not to talk about the issues we have discussed during a meeting. Therefore, I will not talk about the subjects discussed during this meeting. What I would like to say is that Philip Habib has done us much good in helping us rid ourselves of the ordeal and crisis that afflicted us. I believe that had it not been for Habib, many problems would have remained unsolved. As Lebanese people, we are indebted to him and to President Reagan, who authorized him to come to Lebanon. This man has worked with utmost sincerity to help us dispose of all these problems from which we suffered. My only wish and the wish of all of us is to safeguard and support the achievements that have been made for Lebanon's unity, freedom and independence and to avoid falling into such trouble in the future.

Asked about Philip Habib's mission in Lebanon, Al-Jumayyil said: I hope Habib will continue his mission in Lebanon until we are rid of all the problems from which we are suffering, because, as Lebanese, we are in pressing need of our friends abroad to help us rise from our stumbling and have a strong Lebanese army, strong Lebanese security forces, strong public security and strong security organs. I am not saying Philip Habib should stay in Lebanon, because the task of rebuilding the army and the secruity forces will take some time. I believe when we start the first steps on this road, Lebanon will be on a sound path.

Al-Jumayyil was asked: We have heard Philip Habib is undertaking a specific task to bring the views closer following the presidential elections. Is this true? Al-Jumayyil replied: We hope not to involve Philip Habib in our problems, because he has enough problems to tackle with the Syrians, Palestinians and Israelis. It is we who must pay attention to our domestic problems. We hope to return to serious and silent action. The fever of the elections is over. Today, we have a new path on which we must proceed. I extend my hand to all Lebanese to cooperate among ourselves with all love, sincerity and a spirit of responsibility, because no one can deliver us if we do not save ourselves and unite. This is an internal issue. We appreciate any help that is extended to us. However, no one can make anyone else come and talk with others. As Lebanese, we can sit down together at a table.

If we cannot do this, neither Habib nor anyone else can bring us together. Anyway, this is an internal issue and responsibility. It is my responsibility as president of the republic rather than Habib's.

He was asked: This responsibility you talked about, do you believe it can start before you assume your constitutional tasks. He said: Certainly, this process must be achieved in the next 3 days. This issue cannot wait any longer. If it becomes clear it will take some time, it means the future will be difficult. These issues must be settled as quickly as possible. I am not against the opposition, particularly an honest opposition. As representative of the government, I will be honest with the opposition in every sense of the word in a democratic country. Let there be an opposition and a government, but within the context of our affiliation with the homeland and with Lebanon's unity and democracy. He said Lebanon is a democratic country and democracy must be complete. The parties and all groupings must perform their roles completely. Then everyone will shoulder his responsibility. There is a Chamber of Deputies to decide on these issues; there is a government that shoulders its responsibilities; and there is a president of the republic who is entrusted with all these things and all democratic practices. Surely, I will safeguard all these things.

In response to a question, Al-Jumayyil said: We began work this morning and we have a great deal to do. Today, I asked all friends that all celebrations and congratulations be finished, because the people, the employees and I have work to do. Everyone has responsibilities. Forty-eight hours of celebrations are enough. Everyone must shoulder his responsibility.

SA'D HADDAD ADDRESSES NATION 26 AUGUST

NC261356 Marj 'Uyun Voice of Hope in Arabic 1028 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Speech by "Free Lebanon" Commander Maj Sa'd Haddad on radio and television -- live]

[Text] Dear brothers: I would like first to tell those of you, who are in an area where they can watch our television -- channel 12 or 5 -- to tune in, because we are speaking on television as well as radio.

It has been a long time since we spoke to each other. This does not mean we have deserted you. On the contrary, our hearts are always with you. However, there have been many events and developments, as you know. We have always been compelled to intervene and tackle certain matters in the interests of Lebanon and all the Lebanese.

I would like first to address myself to my brothers, the sons of Free Lebanon, with whom we faced the dangers, difficulties, annoyances and pressures -- united in heart, hand and body. I first congratulate you on your safety after all that has happened. At this moment, we cannot but remember our dear martyrs who dies not for the sake of Free Lebanon alone but for the same of all of Lebanon. We must always remember these martyrs and learn lessons from their sacrifices. They must always live in our memory regardless of the changes in circumstances.

Brothers: After these 7 years, we can tell each of you, praise be to God for your safety. However, we must remember the past now and then and remind the others of what you and we have done together. You all know we received no aid from anyone at the most difficult and critical times other than form our sister and neighbor Israel. History will not forget that if this little area, which we called free Lebanon, had not existed, nothing would have remained to be called Lebanon and no one would have remained to dare say that he is Lebanese.

Why this? You all know that when it entered Lebanon, Syria did not come to help the Lebanese but to serve its own interests. It entered to annex Lebanon to Syria. Circumstances willed that we should exist in this area and put up with the dangers, difficulties and accusations -- not heeding any threats -- and proclaim Free Lebanon. This is what alerted Syria to the seriousness of the situation and to the main obstacle, which rose in its way and prevented it from realizing its main plan to annex Lebanon. We do not deny that our brothers in the Lebanese front have undoubtedly put up a heroic resistance against the Syrians, swindlers [Palestinians] and their followers. However, if we want to be realistic, we must admit that if the Syrians used the weapons and military means which were, and are still, in their possession to occupy Jabal Lubnan, they would have been able to do so. They would have been able to occupy Jabal Lubnan if they deployed the aircraft, tanks, guns and missiles they had in their possession. However, Hafiz al-Asad is not stupid. We must admit this. He knew if he had embarked on such a step and overran Jabal Lubnan, this small area which we called Free Lebanon would have remained far from his ambitions, pressures and plans. Al-Asad feared that in the event of the final doing away with the remnants of the legitimacy there, this would remain the only area that could raise its voice. He was afraid this area might be accorded international recognition and that by concluding a joint defense treaty with Israel, this area would have gone ahead and liberated Lebanon from the Syrians and their followers.

Therefore, Hafiz al-Asad has wanted to do the impossible -- to get rid of our area or at least paralyze it in order to be able to realize his objective in Lebanon. Through the will of all the sons of Free Lebanon who fought or who only resided in the area of Free Lebanon -- through this strong will and unshakable faith -- we have been able, praise be to God, to stand fast not only against the military danger but also against the greater danger; this danger was represented in the political pressure exerted on us by the United States, the United Nations and the Arab states. Despite these great pressures, we have been able, praise be to God, to stand fast and see the day of victory.

We have not been content with extending military aid in only the last military operation -- the Galilee safety operation -- which we rightly called the operation of liberating Lebanon. We have helped in this operation within our limited resources. However, the great contribution is that we had been planning for this operation more than a year ago, precisely since 1978. [as heard] We have been preparing public opinion since then. We have done very much to convince the world public opinion, particularly the U.S. public opinion, that it is necessary that the Syrians and swindlers should leave Lebanon. We have not announced all that we have done in the local newspapers and information media, which were hired by, and subjected to, the Syrian and Palestinian occupation. We have concentrated, however, on the world public opinion because we were aware that our battle was more a political than a military battle. [words indistinct] was political and not military because the United States believed that if Lebanon were annexed to Syria, all the difficulties would end. Syria would then be able to control the swindlers and end their question and thus the entire Middle East question would be settled.

God has given us success that we should contribute largely on the informational level and win over to our side the American public opinion on the popular level. This popular public opinion began to interact and exert pressure on official public opinion in the United States. The United States became convinced in the end that Syria and the swindlers must leave Lebanon. This is the greatest victory, and we believe we have contributed to its realization.

After winning the political battle, the turning point of the military battle came.

Before speaking of this, I must say that most of the rich Arab states, such as Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the Gulf states and even some states that claim to be progressive, had agreed on getting rid of the swindlers and on the Israeli Defense Force operation to break the back of some of the swindlers and compel Syria to leave Lebanon. Even Syria is no longer convinced of the use of its staying in Lebanon. It has become convinced it cannot annex Lebanon and the current situation will result only in its ruin and destruction. Therefore, even Syria has become convinced it must leave Lebanon. Although some of its forces are still in the Al-Biqa' and the north, and I assure you they will leave the Al-Biqa' and the north soon. They will find a way to save face and leave the Al-Biqa' and the north.

The military operation followed. We believe it has achieved most of its objectives. The safety of the Galilee has been truly ensured. In the meantime, we have benefited from the operation. The pressure on us has been lifted. The carrying out of the operation beyond the 45 km has been in the interest of all the Lebanese. You must remember that every drop of Israeli blood spilled beyond the Nahr Al-Awwali was spilled in the interest of Lebanon and the Lebanese people. This operation has led to the final eviction of the swindlers from west Beirut, and it has helped the Lebanese people to restore their freedom, unity, dignity and democracy.

The Israeli presence has helped with regard to the holding of elections in Lebanon. These elections led to the victory of Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil, the candidate we supported before his nomination, or rather before the holding of the elections, because he represents the rank in which we are working and follows the line which we are following. Therefore, we consider the election of Bashir al-Jumayyil as a victory for us as well. Someone might ask: Why didn't you nominate yourself? We have never sought position and we have no ambitions. Our actions were nationally motivated. What was important to us was that Lebanon should be saved. This is the biggest reward to me and to the sons of Lebanon. Therefore, we have supported, backed and blessed the election of Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil.

Some, like Sa'ib Salam, Walid Junblatt or Ash-Shaykh Hasan Khalid, have said they wanted a compromise or accord candidate. We told them we will not accept any compromise and we will only accept the challenge candidate. The other group laid its bets on the swindlers and the Syrians, but it lost. We laid our bets on our will, strength and Israel, and we won because we stood on the side of right and Lebanon.

Therefore, after 7 years of grinding war, there must be a victor and a vanquished. We do not accept the principle of no victor and no vanquished which was applied in 1958 and which dragged the country into its present state. If this principle had not been appied in 1958, the country wouldn't have suffered what is has been suffering since 1975 until now. Therefore, let everyone understand that there is a victor and a vanquished. The victor is the one who laid his bets on Lebanon, defended it and sacrificed for it and who placed his hands in those of us who helped Lebanon motivated by right and justice. The vanquished is the one who dealt with the joint enemy -- the Syrians and the swindlers. He is the vanquished.

The greatest blessing we bestow on the vanquished is that we have pardoned him and told him: Let bygones be bygones. This is a blessing. We were supposed to punish the vanquished, but our good nature prevented us from doing so and prompted us to give an opportunity to the vanquished to reform himself. Only the conditions of the victor will be applied. Therefore, I advise Sa'ib Salam, Mufti Hasan Khalid and the others who follow them to accept and admit the reality and to express loyalty and obedience to the new regime.

I also tell former President Sulayman Franjiyah that his method of proclaiming liberated areas, or I don't know what, is an old method. We followed this method before him because we were right, but he is now placing his bets on a losing horse. Therefore, we advise him as one Lebanese to another to stop and refrain from these childish acts, to return to his senses and to declare his loyalty and obedience, because the Syrians will not remain in Tripoli and Zgharta. They will soon leave and Sulayman Franjiyah will be undefended. We give him brotherly advice to refrain from these methods, admit his defeat and accept the new reality.

It is also one of the conditions of the victor to ensure Lebanese sovereignty over all Lebanese territory -- the legitimate expulsion of the remaining Syrians and swindlers from Lebanon. It is also one of the conditions of the victor to sign a conciliation [sulh] and permanent peace treaty with the state of Israel, the state which has saved Lebanon and restored its freedom, sovereignty and independence. If it were not for Israel, nothing would have remained of Lebanon. We must acknowledge the good deed of this state to all Lebanese; when the world deserted us, we found no one to extend a helping hand to us other than Israel. Therefore, we insist that a conciliation treaty be signed with Israel and the border be kept open between Lebanon and Israel and, if necessary, a joint defense treaty be signed with Israel.

Together with our wishes for the success of the president-elect in realizing the aspirations of the Lebanese, some of which we summed up in the conditions we mentioned, we kindly request that when he forms the cabinet that he make it conditional that everyone who wants to enter the cabinet must accept the signing of a peace and concilliation treaty with the state of Israel. Everyone who expects the president-elect [words indistinct] and those who wish to oppose should leave the country, be he a deputy or otherwise. Now that they have gone to the election hall and cast their votes, they must continue the march and sign and endorse the peace treaty with Israel. If such a treaty is not concluded, then we will say that Israel must stay in Lebanon, because it has a right to do so. It won't be much if Israel, which paid in blood for the sake of the Lebanese people, obtains a peace and joint defense treaty with Lebanon.

They used to describe Syria as fraternal Syria. It has transpired that we have found no brother to stand with us except the state of Israel, which has been truly and rightly fraternal. Therefore, whatever we do, we will pay Israel enough of what it is entitled to.

If Syria threatens that it will declare war against Lebanon if it signs a conciliation treaty with Israel, then we say that we have been in a state of war with Syria since independence. We have been in a state of war with Syria since 1943. Syria has [words indistinct] in Lebanon. The Syrians have always harbored ill intentions toward Lebanon. The big battle between Syria and Lebanon started in 1975. Therefore, Syria will be announcing nothing new if it declares now that it is in a state of war with Lebanon. At any rate, we and Syria are in a state of war. However, just among us, we know Syria is saying these things only for local consumption. Syria, as I have told you, will withdraw from Lebanon out of conviction. It wants to find a way to join the peace process backed by Saudi Arabia and its funds. If you don't believe this, you will see it happening soon.

Therefore, we will pay no attention to the threats and menacings of Al-Asad's Syria, because it is nothing new. The Syrians previously made many threats and menacings. The result was that all they said was bubbles in the air.

This is our will, which represents the will of most Lebanese. I repeat and tell the sons of Free Lebanon that when we resisted, fought, paid the blood tax and struggled politically, we did not seek anything other than the sublime interests of Lebanon. Therefore, one of you might say: We did much for Lebanon when we were left alone and we must be given our rights and dues. I tell you all that we have not fought for personal rights. If your rights are given to you and no matter how much you get paid, nobody can ever pay your dues because you alone have saved all Lebanon. There is no price for this. Your right is represented in your personal satisfaction, clear conscience and ease of mind. It is enough pride for you that history should say that you were among the saviors of Lebanon. This is the best reward for each of you. If you are given material rewards, well and good. However, no matter how big these rewards may be, they will not fulfill your rights. Therefore, let the intrinsic psychological reward be your satisfaction with your work.

The greatest reward that could be given to us is to see our country liberated, that it is stable, that its independence is strengthened and that its sovereignty, dignity, prestige and power is restored. We do not seek rewards, nor do we hunt rewards. We have acted and continue to act out of conviction and we aremotivated by our patriotism. We have always asked: If we do not perform this, who would carry it out? Would it be carried out by the defeatists who sat in their homes or went abroad leaving everything behind? Would it be carried out by those who joined the ranks of the swindlers or those who capitulated to the Syrians? Who? There must be people who are willing to make sacrifices. We made sacrifices out of conviction. You know how many times we faced death, but God helped us.

Our great reward, as I have already said, is to see our dear homeland attaining what it aspired for and to see it reoccupying its previous position. We do not consider any material reward as enough, because we have struggled and sacrificed everything for the sake of Lebanon. This is the duty of every Lebanese. You might not be rewarded at all. Anyone who reads Lebanese history will find out that most of those who fought for the sake of Lebanon out of faith have ended their lives outside Lebanon. If this does happen to us, we will not regret anything because we have served our homeland and our Lebanese people, whose fate would have been similar to that of many people who disappeared from the world. All we wish is that we be given the opportunity to see all Lebanon free, sovereign and independent and that God bestow on us his blessing to live in our home, die in Lebanon and be buried in the burial places of our fathers and grandfathers. This is our best reward.

Oh Lebanese, the sons of Free Lebanon: Nobody can match your patriotism. Do not belittle the role you have carried out. You have given, so remain generous. If you are rewarded, well and good, and if you are not rewarded, well and good also, because all of us seek only the interests of this homeland, which we hold sacred and revered. May youlive long and may free Lebanon live long sovereign, and independent.

AL-JUMAYYIL TO REORGANIZE ARMY; HADDAD TO COMMAND

NC270659 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 0600 GMT 27 Aug 82

[Text] In Beirut, the spokesman for President-elect Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil stated yesterday that it is possible a referendum will be held in Lebanon on concluding a conciliation [sulh] and peace treaty with the State of Israel. The spokesman for the president-elect has told a French television correspondent that talk on this subject is premature because the new president has not yet assumed his office constitutionally and because the urgent tasks before him are to liberate Lebanon from all foreign forces without exception and to reunite the country.

The spokesman, who declined to reveal his full name and called himself Madfun, said President-elect Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil will dissolve all the military organizations in Lebanon and reorganize the Lebanese Army. According to the new reorganization, the Lebanese forces and the forces operating in south Lebanon will be under the command of Major Sa'd Haddad, the spokesman said.

AL-JUMAYYIL RECEIVES CABLE FROM DANY SHAM'UN

NC261956 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] The president-elect has received a cable from Dany Sham'un in which he wished him success in leading the country. Earlier, Al-Jumayyil called on Dany Sham'un to return to Lebanon to cooperate in saving the country.

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL DELEGATION MEETS SARKIS

NC261241 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Excerpts] President Ilyas Sarkis has held a meeting with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and Foreign and Expatriates Minister Fu'ad Butrus.

At 1030 today, President Sarkis received the delegation of Socialist International, led by its vice chairman, Mario Soares, the secretary general of the Portuguese Socialist Party.

After the meeting Soares said: Within the framework of our mission to acquaint ourselves with the situation in Lebanon, I visited the president, who briefed us on the current situation. In our turn we will convey our impression to our parties, after having met with several Lebanese personages and parties.

Meets Al-Jumayyil

NC262157 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2115 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil met with the visiting delegation of the Socialist International, led by Mario Soares and including [names indistinct], between 2130 and 2230 today. President al-Jumayyil explained the Lebanese crisis, both past and present, and its future developments.

Mario Soares said: We had the honor of meeting with the president-elect, who explained to us his point of view and his opinion on what is taking place. We posed many questions and we will report their answers honestly.

TWO DETAINED FOR BOMBING DEPUTIES' HOUSES

NC261857 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] The Beirut prosecutor general has issued two detention notices against Abu 'Ashur and 'Abd Fathallah, members in [the Independent Nasirite Movement] Al-Murabitun. They are accused of participating with other armed persons in blowing up homes and offices of a number of deputies in west Beirut, setting fire to them and plundering their contents in reaction to the election of the new president of the republic.

RIF'AT AL-ASAD IN U.S. FOR 'HEALTH REASONS'

JN261447 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1415 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Answering a question about Ba'th Party Regional Command member Rif'at al-Asad's visit to the United States, a media source in Damascus has said Dr Rif'at al-Asad is in the United States for health reasons. He is undergoing some medical checkups by certain specialists there.

Spokesman Denies Visit 'Official'

GF261951 Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 26 Aug 82 p 1

['Abd ar-Rahman al-Amin dispatch from Washington]

[Text] In a written response to an inquiry made by AS-SIYASAH yesterday on Rif'at al-Asad's current visit to Washington and the meetings he held with U.S. officials, the press office of the official spokesman responded as follows: "Mr Rif'at al-Asad, brother of Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, who is currently in the United States, accompanied by his family, is on a private visit. With the exception of attending a social event at which a State Department official was present, Rif'at al-Asad has not met with any U.S. official. Such meetings are not expected to take place."

It is noteworthy that through field research, AS-SIYASAH has learned that the official [at the social event] was Ambassador David Schneider, a deputy of Nicholas Veliotes, assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs. The paper also has learned that there were no new discussions on the Middle East issue. The paper added that Rif'at al-Asad is there for medical treatment.

It is noteworthy that the private AS-SIYASAH sources noted that Al-Asad, who is staying at the Madison Hotel, may move to Walter Reed Hospital for a medical examination.

'Arab Diplomatic Source' on Visit

GF270454 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic 26 Aug 82 p 1

[Dispatch from Washington]

[Text] AL-QABAS has learned that on Wednesday Rif'at al-Asad secretly visited the U.S. State Department, where he met with a number of officials. It is known that the U.S. Government is shrouding the activities of the Syrian official with extreme secrecy. Official circles have refused to elaborate on his visit with the exception of stating that he has come for medical treatment. The officials refused to confirm reports that he met with officials yesterday, although this is what was confirmed yesterday by a U.S. State Department spokesman.

We have learned from a reliable Arab diplomatic source that Saudi Arabia paved the way for this visit.

U.S. sources say that Rif'at al-Asad, chief of the Syrian Defense Forces, came to complete the latest mission Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam began in Washington. The Arab diplomat added that he believes discussion centered on the following points:

1. Syria's position toward the Saudi peace plan and toward reviving it.

2. Work in the direction of ameliorating the atmosphere between Syria and Bashir al-Jumayyil.

3. Continuation of efforts in the direction of improving U.S.-Syrian relations.

USSR DELEGATION CONTINUES VISIT TO DAMASCUS

Meets With Ba'th Official

JN261538 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Excerpt] 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, today received the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium delegation headed by Ivan Petrovich Kalin, vice president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and president of the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The meeting dealt with cooperation and friendship between the two parties. The two sides expressed satisfaction with the growth and development of relations between the two parties and countries, which benefit the struggle and interests of the two countries and people.

Meets With Al-Asad

JN261709 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received at 1300 today the Soviet parliamentary delegation visiting the country. It is headed by Ivan Petrovich Kalin, vice president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The meeting was attended by People's Assembly speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi and USSR Ambassador in Damascus Vladimir Yukhin.

The head of the USSR delegation conveyed to the president greetings from President Leonid Brezhnev and the Soviet leadership. The delegation expressed satisfaction with their talks in Damascus, pointing out the identity of views in evaluating current and future situations. The delegation praised Syria's stands in facing plots and aggression and expressed the USSR's appreciation for these stands.

The president asked the delegation to convey his greetings to President Leonid Brezhnev and the Soviet leadership. He asserted that relations between Syria and the USSR are developing for the better and that Syria appreciates the role of the USSR and considers it a great friend of Syria. He said friendly relations with the USSR are not transient ['alaqatun tari'ah] but have a strategic dimension. The president said the people's enemies are doing everything possible to reverse the tide of progress. He said the flagrant aggression in the region is unprecedented degree and used it to reach their targets. However, the fighters confronted them strongly, vehemently and honorably. The president said the aggressors will not be able to realize their designs. He said: We have asserted that the time when bombs and planes terrified people and deverted them from their principles is gone, never to return. People may suffer, sustain material losses, die and be destroyed, but they will always adhere to their aims.

The president also said that our path is long, but we will continue on it because the people will eventually emerge victorious and must pay the price of their triumph. The president said: In facing the aggression, we rely on the determination and awareness of our people and the support of our friends.

Kalin Holds Press Conference

JN262153 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] At a press conference this evening, Ivan Petrovich Kalin, vice president of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, hailed Syria's distinctive role under the leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad in the struggle against imperialist, Zionist and reactionary designs. He also praised the courage demonstrated by the Syrian Arab fighter in recent battles against the Israeli aggressors during their invasion of Lebanon.

He said the USSR delegation's visit to Syria is aimed at reiterating to the friendly Syrians that the Soviet Union has offered and will continue to offer aid and assistance to those who do not bow to the aggressor and to those who are trying to reach a just and lasting settlement in the region.

He reiterated Soviet President Leonid Brezhnev's recent statement that Moscow's stand is clear: the fire of war must be extinguished; aggression must be eradicated and the Zionist forces must withdraw from Lebanon.

He asserted that the Zionist invading forces would never have been able to occupy vast areas of Lebanon and to commit many crimes and massacres against the defenseless civilians had it not been for the unlimited U.S. support to Israel.

He expressed satisfaction with the development of Syrian-Soviet relations, a matter commensurate with the friendship and cooperation treaty signed by Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Leonid Brezhnev in 1980. He said friendship and cooperation between the two countries have been established for a long time. These relations, he added, were crowned by and attained a better standard through the signing of the treaty.

AL-KASM ADDRESSES PALESTINIAN EVACUEES 26 AUG

JN261438 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Excerpts] The Cypriot ship "Sol Georgius" arrived in the port of Tartus from Beirut at 0130 today with 560 Palestinian fighters on board, including Khalid al-Hasan [name as heard], Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser.

Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, President Hafiz al-Asad's representative, addressed the Palestinian fighters by saying: We welcome the fighters in the country of fighters and the steadfast men in the country of steadfastness. You have moved from one arena to another and from one combat position to another.

He added: The Syrian and Palestinian fighters are, on behalf of all Arabs, receiving the blows of bullets, bombs, warplanes' rockets and tank fire in Beirut, Bhamdun, 'Alayh, Al-Mudayrij and the Al-Biqa' plain. They have recorded with blood that the Syrian and Palestinian fighters are safeguarding the Arab nation's honor, dignity and destiny.

Continuing, Dr al-Kasm reiterated that the Palestinian, Syrian and nationalist Lebanese martyrs, whose blood mixed in Lebanon, are an unequivocal pledge that the principal issue will remain as long as there is a single throbbing Arab heart. He added: The United States believes it has won, and Israel believes it has advanced toward the attainment of its dream. The capitulationists believe they are riding the wave of the treasonous policy. However, what has happened with regard to the masses, our sole concern, will constitute our road to learn, realize and work, as only then the strength and revolution of Arab awareness will be the victory to which we are aspiring. Only then will the fate of the United States and Israel and their policy in the region be no better than their fate in Vietnam.

The potential of the Arab masses is stronger than any weapon, conspiracy and defeatism. We have to understand how to utilize this potential in the political and military battle and how to use it in struggle and confrontation. We also have to know how to define the positions of friends and of enemies.

He added: Lebanon's battle has revealed and demonstrated our cause to the world. It has demonstrated that the United States and Zionism are the Arabs' sole enemies and that the toiling peoples and the socialist countries, led by the loyal Soviet Union, are the Arabs' friends.

Comrade Dr al-Kasm said: O fighters, we in Syria know you and you know us. We have always been together and we will remain so. The blood that has intermixed on Lebanese soil indicates the objective for which we, together, hand-in-hand and gun near gun, will work until we have attained it.

He added: What they are doing in Lebanon is not new. They are among a free and noble people who will not submit to humiliation or to Israeli occupation. Even though they have brought in their agent by means of spears and bribes and have forged Lebanon's will, the will of Arab and noble Lebanon will remain representative of the nationalist forces. Syria, under President Hafiz al-Asad, will remain the citadel for all nationalists and a supporter for noble Lebanon. Everyone will realize that Syria, in its pan-Arab position, will remain steadfast like the steadfastness of Arab existence until the end: no bargaining, no capitulation and no defeatism. Instead, we will demonstrate determination, will and stubbornness, as well as faith in God, the people, the Palestinian cause and the Arabs' right to self-determination by means of their power and weapons.

In conclusion, Dr al-Kasm said: On behalf of the president struggler, on behalf of the Ba'th Party, which offered martyrs and made the Palestinian cause the axis of its tenacious struggle, and on behalf of the government and the Syrian masses, we welcome you in this trench and position.

In a statement to newsmen, Khalid al-Fahum, Palestine National Council chairman, expressed his happiness at receiving a group of Palestinian heroes who were mountain-like in their steadfastness against the U.S.-supported invasion. We are incapable of describing the feelings that confirm that the PLO and our national unity will remain and that we will neither submit nor capitulate.

Scores Al-Jumayyil as 'Agent'

JN261254 Monte Carlo Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Telephone dispatch by Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris on 26 August -- live or recorded]

[Excerpts] The Cypriot ship "Sol Georgius" arrived in the port of Tartus, northern Syria from Beirut at 0130 today with 560 Palestinian fighters on board, including Yasir 'Arafat's political adviser Khalid al-Hasan [name as heard]. This group consists of fighters from Fatah and popular front organizations.

Addressing the fighters, Syrian Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm said: You have moved from one arena to another and from one fighting position to another. The first official Syrian reaction to the election of Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil as president of Lebanon came in Dr al-Kasm's speech when the prime minister described him by saying: He is an agent of America and Israel who was appointed by force.

MA'ARIV REPORTS UPCOMING BEGIN APPEAL TO EGYPT

TA261348 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Aug 82 pp 1, 7

[Report by Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] On the day following the completion of the terrorists' evacuation from Beirut, Prime Minister Menahem Begin will send a letter to Egyptian President Mubarak asking that the autonomy talks resume immediately.

Mubarak will also be asked to help thaw the freeze in relations between Israel and Egypt -- a freeze that has existed since the beginning of Operation Peace for Galilee.

Either the foreign or defense minister, Yitzhaq Shamir or Ari'el Sharon, will then go to Cairo for talks with Egyptian officials in an effort to renew high-level diplomatic contacts.

In his appeal to the Egyptian president, Begin will stress that with the terrorists' evacuation one of the main obstacles to the autonomy talks has been removed. In Jerusalem it is emphasized that with the completion of the PLO's evacuation, this organization's terrorist pressure on the Arab inhabitants of Judaea, Samaria and the Gaza Strip will decrease. Conditions will then allow the participation of local Palestinians in the negotiations.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali stressed recently, in a talk with Ambassador to Cairo Moshe Sasson, that the war in Lebanon put Egypt in an embarrassing situation. He also emphasized that as long as the war continues it will be impossible to resume the autonomy talks or speak of normalization between Israel and Egypt.

Since Operation Peace for Galilee began on 6 June, contacts have been reduced between Egyptian leaders and Israeli Ambassador Moshe Sasson, who they find personally acceptable.

The only real appeal to have been made by the Egyptians in recent weeks came from Foreign Minister 'Ali, who asked Israel to allow an Egyptian ship, leased by three opposition parties in Cairo, to unload medicine in Lebanon for the terrorists and the Muslim inhabitants, and also to allow an Egyptian medical team to provide medical aid to wounded in Lebanon.

SHARON ADDRESSES U.S. JEWISH LEADERS CONFERENCE

TA261619 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1558 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has said that we are on the verge of a new era in the Middle East and that the next country to sign a peace treaty with the State of Israel will be Lebanon. Minister Sharon made these remarks in New York, in a speech before the Conference of Presidents of Major U.S. Jewish Organizations. Arye Meqel is on the telephone from New York. Good evening to you.

[Meqel — live] Good evening. The defense minister's speech is still in progress. Here are some of the points he has made so far. Sharon reviewed the war in Lebanon, summing up his remarks with a reference to the PLO: You should not rejoice in the failure of your enemy.

Later, he said that we are on the verge of a new era in the Middle East and that Lebanon will sign a peace treaty with Israel. Hence, a peace axis will be established in the Middle East: the Jerusalem-Cairo-Beirut axis, which will totally change the face of the region.

Nevertheless, he said, there is something more important than the terrorists' evacuation from Beirut: the chances for peaceful coexistence with the Palestinian Arabs have improved. Sharon recounted that he resumed the dialogue with Palestinian leaders from Judaea and Samaria yesterday, saying that he already felt the change in the atmosphere and that he believes we will be able to reach the point where a dialogue with the Palestinian Arabs becomes a normal process.

He indirectly criticized the United States over the fact that its spokesman lauded all the elements which brought about the settlement in Lebanon, including Lebanese President Sarkis, but failed to include the Israeli Government and Prime Minister Begin in their commendations -- according to Sharon. This he criticized.

He added that four objectives are currently shared by Israel and the United States: removing the PLO from Beirut, withdrawing all foreign forces; attaining security arrangements along Israel's northern border; and attaining a central government in Lebanon that will reconstruct the country.

On Dialogue With Palestinians

TA261753 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon will confer tomorrow with U.S. Secretary of Defense Caspar Weinberger before he leaves for another meeting with Secretary of State George Shultz. Weinberger made his decision to invite Sharon today. It had not been clear that the two would actually meet. Sharon spoke in New York to members of the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations about an hour ago. Our correspondent Shalom Qital reports from New York:

[Begin recording with Sharon remarks apparently recorded earlier] [Qital] Aided by aerial photographs, Sharon gave an hour-long review of the fighting in Lebanon. In anticipation of his talks here in the United States, where it is clear that administration officials will urge him to address the Palestinian issue, he had the following to say:

[Sharon -- in English] This does not mean there is not going to be problems. There are going to be problems, but it's going to be much easier. Yesterday after those months where I spent most of the time in Lebanon, I renewed the dialogue with Palestinian leaders in Samaria and Judaea, and I must tell you that I already felt the change in the atmosphere. And I believe that we will be able to come into a situation where a dialogue with the Palestinian Arabs will become normal process.

[Qital translates the above and continues] The dialogue with Palestinian Arabs will be a normal process, like any dialogue between nations. The effects of the war in Lebanon can already be felt.

A senior source has told me that the United States, although it does not know precisely in what way, plans to boost and spur the talks on the Palestinian issue, while Israel thinks that it is necessary to first resolve the crisis in Lebanon and bring about the ouster of the foreign forces there.

Let us go back to what Sharon said on Israeli-U.S. relations. He referred to the United States as Israel's best friend. Had we not taken into account the U.S. appeals and requests, we would have brought about an earlier expulsion of the terrorists, the defense minister said. We are not blaming anyone; we had no better friend than the United States, nor will we have one. We are allies.

Right now Sharon is meeting with New York Mayor Ed Koch. Tomorrow he will begin his talks with administration officials in Washington. For the moment, that is all from Shalom Qital in New York. [end recording]

On Cooperation With U.S.

TA261902 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Defense Minister Ari'el Sharon has arrived in the United States to meet with Jewish leaders and U.S. administration officials. The defense minister says he hopes for greater cooperation between Israel and the United States on the issues of Lebanon and the Palestinians and the Middle East in general. From New York, Judy Lessing reports:

[Begin recording with Sharon remarks apparently recorded earlier] [Lessing] Mr Sharon told a meeting of the confederation of major American Jewish organizations that no one can lecture the Jews about the value of human life. He said if Israel had not kept up the military pressure on the PLO in Beirut, they would have continued to try and bide time and a settlement which would allow them to rebuild their structure in the city. He claimed that the PLO has been beaten politically as well as militarily. Speaking in front of a line of television cameras, the defense minister said no one bothered about PLO atrocities in Lebanon, against Lebanese and Israelis for 7 years until Israel acted. Now it was time to look forward, he said.

[Sharon] I believe an era of peace [has started], an era that will enable us to move forward with a different peace negotiation and plans that we have to move on [as heard]; and I believe that time arrived for further and deeper cooperation between the United States and Israel in order to arrive to peace with Lebanon, with the Palestinian Arabs and with the rest of the countries in the Middle East.

[Lessing] Sharon said he thought autonomy talks could go on in a new atmosphere leading to a real settlement and coexistence between Israelis and Palestinian Arabs. He also stressed that the United States did not know in advance of Israel's military move in Lebanon, but the two countries had common goals, including getting the PLO out of Beirut and all non-Lebanese forces out of Lebanon, the need for security arrangements along Israel's northern border and the need for a strong central government in Lebanon.

Soviet influence in the Middle East has been greatly reduced, Mr Sharon told his audience. [end recording]

MERIDOR SAYS LEBANESE REFUSE TO HELP REFUGEES

TA261719 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Minister Ya'aqov Meridor, who is responsible for aid to Lebanon, has said that in his contacts with the Lebanese Government, he learned that it is determined to liquidate all the refugee camps in Lebanon.

Speaking to our correspondent, Meridor said that the Lebanese have turned down Israel's suggestions that the 30,000 refugees left homeless be rehabilitated and resettled near Beirut. The Lebanese have similarly said that they are not prepared to invest even $1 to rehouse the refugees as winter approaches, or to accept tents or prefabricated structures from Israel.

Therefore, the Israeli Government, together with UNRWA, has agreed that the latter will send tents to the homeless so that at least this winter they will have some protection from the cold. It was also agreed that other measures to combat the cold and help the needy and the children will be supplied by various Israeli charity organizations and similar bodies from other countries, the United Nations and the Israeli Government.

Meridor believes that after winter, the problem of the Palestinian refugees in the camps might be solved if the Lebanese Government compels them to seek permanent housing in existing districts in the various towns.

It may even force them to move to other Arab countries that will be prepared to take them in. He said such countries could be found, countries where there is a vast labor shortage.

PERES CALLS FOR 'DARING' PALESTINIAN INITIATIVE

TA261732 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1705 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Tel Aviv, 26 Aug (ITIM) -- Israel is now strong enough to take a daring initiative to solve the Palestinian problem, and now is the most propitious time for it, Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres said this evening in an appearance before a bonds delegation touring the Knesset building.

According to Peres, it is wrong to think that the Arab world's weakness, the Soviet silence and the U.S. partial consent enable us to rest on our laurels and maintain the status quo. The Israeli people do not hate Palestinians and in no way feel superior to them. Peace will prevail in this region once Palestinian children feel as secure as Jewish children.

The United States might encourage this settlement if it strengthens its status in the region, and Egypt is also reserved an important role in this process.

Referring to the PLO, Peres said that it had for years been a obstacle on the road to peace, a pest for the Palestinians, a burden for the Arabs and a nuisance for Israel.

EYTAN ON SYRIAN BUILDUP, JORDANIAN BORDER ACTIVITY

TA261600 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] The chief of staff thinks that the terrorists' evacuation from Beirut will have no impact whatsoever on the terrorists' attempts to operate against Israel from the Jordanian border.

As for the Syrian entrenchment in the Al-Biqa' Valley, the chief of staff says that this does not bother the IDF. Therefore, the IDF will not respond to it unless the Syrians continue to operate against our forces through the terrorists.

Today the chief of staff toured the border along the Jordan Rift Valley for the first time since the outbreak of the Peace for Galilee war. During the tour, Yinon Shenkar asked him whether he foresees an increase in anti-Israeli activities from the Jordanian border:

[Begin recording] [Eytan] They try to infiltrate from Jordan all the time, but their success is hindered by two factors: first, our security system and activities along the Jordanian border; second, the fact that the Jordanians themselves exert much effort to prevent them from carrying out this kind of activity and I believe that they will behave likewise in the future. The evacuation from Beirut, too, will not affect their ability because the Jordanians have gathered them in some kind of camp -- somewhere in the desert near Nafkh -- and taken their weapons from them. Moreover, they have not changed their approach -- namely, they are not allowing them to operate from the Jordanian border.

[Question] That is to say, the IDF, too, moves not have to take any kind of special steps now?

[Answer] No special steps are needed beyond the ones taken so far.

[Question] Would you say that the eastern front will remain calm?

[Answer] Yes, relatively. Efforts may be made to step up activities. However, in my opinion, these will not be significant.

[Question] As far as the Syrian entrenchment in the Al-Biqa' Valley, will the IDF respond to it in any way?

[Answer] We have no need to respond to the very fact of the entrenchment, unless they continue their activities against us through the terrorists. They are aware of this -- we have said as much -- and we have also shown them what lies in store for them if they proceed with these activities. I assume that following our warnings and clarifications they will change their approach. Otherwise, we will have to think about a course of action.

[Question] Does the Syrian entrenchment not bother the IDF in case we are called upon to consider some kind of operation?

[Answer] No, it does not bother us. [end recording]

BEN-ELISAR ON CONTINUED SYRIAN PRESENCE IN LEBANON

TA261857 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Interview with Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee Chairman MK Eliyahu Ben-Elisar by Knesset correspondent Arye Golan on 26 August, place not given -- recorded]

[Text] [Question] What do you think Syria's intentions are?

[Answer] It seems to me that Syria has no hostile intentions along the front. It knows that it is in a position of inferiority and weakness; it realizes the IDF cannons' range reaches inside Syrian territory. In fact, along the entire front the Syrian Army is in an inferior position and we are holding the tactically superior positions. So I do not believe Syria harbors hostile intentions. But it may very well be that it would want to show the Arab world that it is still fighting, especially in view of the fact that they are the last to be fighting in this war. They might want to prove that they are the ones who are fighting the battles.

It would be worth our while to make this clear to the Syrians in the most unambiguous manner -- and this is what the defense minister, the prime minister and other ministers did -- so that they do not make the mistake of thinking that we will let them show their prowess and courage even in a momentary and artificial fashion so that under the guise of the cease-fire, or the evacuation, or perhaps even under cover of diplomatic negotiations, they could open fire without us responding in the way we see fit in order to silence them. It would be better for them to simply honor the cease-fire.

[Question] If I understand you correctly, you believe that there may be a conflagration with the Syrians.

[Answer] I would not rule out the possibility that the Syrians might want to prove that they are still capable of doing something and that they would consequently have the intention of provoking us in a narrow front or on a regional plane. But we must warn them in the most unequivocal manner even against this.

[Question] They have likewise tried to threaten Bashir al-Jumayyil. A Syrian Army spokesman has warned Al-Jumayyil, saying that if he makes peace with Israel, Syria will declare war on him. Do you think Bashir al-Jumayyil is currently strong enough to make an official demand for the ouster of the Syrian force from Lebanon? Does he have the power to sign a peace treaty with Israel?

[Answer] The fact of the matter is that the outgoing president, Sarkis, has already said that Lebanon is no longer interested in having the Syrian Army inside its territory. To this, there came a Syrian reply that an Arab summit meeting had decided on the deterrent force and the pan-Arab peace force and, therefore, it is only this body that can actually withdraw the force's mandate -- that is, from the Syrian force -- and ban its presence in Lebanon.

The question is whether Lebanon will really demand at the summit meeting, which is due to take place next month, on 6 September in Fes, Morocco, that the Syrian forces actually withdraw. I believe this will really take place, for this, President-elect Bashir al-Jumayyil has enough power and strength.

As for a peace treaty, this is of course a question that is still very difficult to answer. Incidentally, I would suggest, once the Government of Israel, and in particular the prime minister, has completely clarified what we are expecting from the Lebanese president-elect, that we do not elaborate on this, because the more we speak of the possibility of making peace with Lebanon, the more we are in fact prompting the Syrians to react.

We do not need these Syrian reactions; everyone knows full well what we actually want. In my opinion, Lebanon under the presidency of Al-Jumayyil will also be largely...I hesitate to say it will be dependent on Israel, but Israel will continue to be very important to the next president of Lebanon and to the country itself, because in the final analysis how could the nature of Lebanon be maintained if Israel, even if not actually inside Lebanon, does not make it clear to the regional powers and the Arab countries that Lebanon must remain independent?

[Question] Dr Ben-Elisar, I thank you very much.

PLO, SYRIAN BUILDUP IN EASTERN SECTOR DETAILED

TA270630 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 27 Aug 82 p 2

[Report by Yo'el Dar]

[Text] Sidon -- The PLO has increased its armed presence in the Al-Biqa' Valley and northern Lebanon to 7,000 men, it has been reported in the east Beirut press. This is over 2,000 more than were reported at the beginning of the month.

According to Lebanese civilians coming from those areas, the Syrians there are continuing to bring tanks and armoured personnel carriers to the front. Local villagers fear a new round of fighting between Syria and the IDF and are reportedly leaving their homes.

The PLO terrorists were reportedly concentrated in two camps, Al-Barid and Badawi, north of Tripoli, known to be the home territory of Bashir al-Jumayyil's personal enemies, including Sulayman Franjiyah, the former premier of Lebanon. A third PLO camp, known as Wayval, is located in the Al-Biqa'.

The Lebanese civilians say that the PLO has also taken over several public buildings in Ba'labakk and are using them for military purposes. The PLO enjoys the protection of some 30,000 Syrian soldiers and those Maronites who maintain close ties with Franjiyah's militia.

Some of the villagers have brought military orders attributed to Syrian commanders in which they pledge to block Israel's alleged plans to occupy northern Lebanon. One villager said that he heard Syrian Defence Minister Mustafa Talas say during his visit to Tripoli last Saturday that only the Syrian Army had prevented the IDF from reaching Mecca and controlling two million Moslem pilgrims.

PERES ON 'NEXT STEP' IN LEBANON, INQUIRY COMMISSION

TA252007 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1935 GMT 25 Aug 82

[Interview with Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres by Yoram Ronen, Nisim Mish'al and Ya'aqov Ahime'ir on "Moqed" program -- live in studio]

[Excerpts] [Ahime'ir] Good evening. Two weeks after the beginning of Operation Peace for Galilee, MK Shim'on Peres said that he was quite critical of the way the war had been conducted. The Alignment, so we hear, is busy preparing for a public attack on the government. This evening we will ask MK Shim'on Peres, the Labor Party chairman, about the various war issues. Here with me in the studio are Yoram Ronen and Nisim Mish'al. MK Peres, good evening to you.

[Answer] Good evening.

[Question] Mr Peres, the terrorists are being evacuated from Beirut and Lebanon has a new president. What, in your opinion, is the next step Israel must take in this affair?

[Answer] In my opinion, Israel must take five steps. The first step is to announce that with the establishment of an independent Lebanese government and the entry into Beirut of the Lebanese Army, we will leave Beirut of our own free will. The second step is for Israel to have no intention of intervening in Lebanon's internal affairs. The third step is for us to support the U.S. attempt to evacuate all non-Lebanese forces from Lebanon, including the Syrians and us. The fourth step is for us not to use the army to achieve this evacuation; it should be achieved through diplomatic means. After the foreign armies are evacuated from Lebanon, Israel must announce that we will leave Lebanon and that we have no intention of returning to it, unless the terrorists return or a new danger to Israel is created. In that case, Israel, in accordance with Clause 51 of the United Nations Charter, in self-defense, will prevent the creation of a new danger in southern Lebanon.

[Question] It seems to me that on this matter your position and that of the government are almost idential. The government also says that we will not leave Lebanon as long as there are foreign forces there.

[Answer] There are points on which we agree; there are points on which we differ. First of all, I am not ashamed if we do agree. But the main points are, as I said: the evacuation of Beirut of our own free will; the nonuse of military measures for the purpose of the evacuation; diplomatic negotiations and the other points, as I outlined them.

[Question] And if the Syrians do not want to leave through political measures? Will Israel then have to remain where it is today?

[Answer] First of all, at this stage, diplomatic negotiations must be conducted without the threat of force, without an announcement of when we will leave Lebanon. That is the U.S. proposal. I also believe -- after all, there is no point in getting involved in hypothetical problems every time -- that the Syrians have very serious reasons to evacuate their military forces from Lebanon, because if both their forces and our forces remain, we have the edge. And we are only about 30 km from the gates of Damascus. So I believe that Al-Asad will be prepared to evacuate. That is also the Americans' belief. I propose that we not use the military or talk of victory every time. We must try this, and I hope that it works.

[Question] Today, the terrorists are really leaving Beirut and there is a new president in Lebanon, one who might be called favorable to Israel: Would you not regard this as an achievement by the government?

[Answer] I regard the evacuation of the terrorists as an achievement. The question, however, is whether this merited going to war or not, whether this was worth risking the lives of our sons too. This question still remains. The question, for instance, is whether it was worth bombing Beirut for 11 straight hours, incessantly, and spilling the blood of Israel's image, so to speak, in the eyes of the entire world. This is a question one must think about.

[Question] What, Mr Peres, is your answer to these bombings that lasted 11 hours?

[Answer] It is no. My opinion is similar to David Levi's, and my view is the same as that of both deputy prime ministers. Yesterday, Mr Begin said: Who is the Alignment, where every person holds a different view? Well, this is the government. The prime minister has two deputies. One of them demanded in the midst of the war that the defense minister be fired. The other came out on television on "Moqed," saying that the bombings transgressed Cabinet decisions. My opinion is negative. Israel has political, even historical calculations. [sentence as heard]

[Question] Mr Peres, over the last few days we have been hearing that the Labor Party intends to open what you call an information attack on the government and on the government's moves in the war. Do you think that this is the right time to open such an offensive that is, now, when there is a feeling that at least several of the main objectives of the war are being chaired?

[Answer] The problem is not an offensive against the government. We and the government are two sharp national alternatives. We are now deciding Israel's future. It is our duty to explain our position in depth and unambiguously. An Israel large in territory or an Israel justified in its path -- I am in favor of a strong Israel -- that is, a democratic Israel, a liberal Israel, an Israel with kibbutzim, an Israel working, an Israel that is prepared to give up some of its territory. And I am saying this, whether it is popular or not, in order to remain a Jewish state, so that inside its own belly a population, which will in fact always endanger our country by virtue of its majority, will not grow.

And just as Mr Begin sees this was as a part of his fight for greater Eretz Yisra'el, for the complete Eretz Yisra'el, I see -- and now, more than ever -- a need to explain to the nation and to the youth our choices. I do not want us to wake up in another 10 years with our sons asking: Did you not see what was happening, that between the Jordan and the sea most of the children being born were not even Jewish children; that in the Galilee the Jews or the Jewish colony, is in a constant downswing? This is all the more imperative as Mr Begin has not made so many demands recently, neither concerning immigration, nor concerning emigration.

The question is, where is the country going? What is this, a soccer match between the government and the opposition? This is a national, serious and pointed argument. What Israel will we have? A little swollen-headed Israel, or a just, very strong Israel? But we must look to the future and and make the necessary decisions in time.

[Question] Mr Peres, you are criticizing, perhaps....

[Answer] I am not criticizing; I am presenting our alternative. The Likud is following a path that seems to me to be a dead end. It is a path that will commit Israel to living by the sword and -- how did Mr Begin phrase it -- peaceful life is better than the pains of war. He said that. I think that we must act now. There is a political situation in the Middle East, but it was not created in the wake of the war. There was the Iran-Iraq war. The Arab world was split before that. Egypt made peace with us. Syria alone cannot go to war. All these conditions are well known. Russia is busy with its own affairs. The question is: What should we do now? Undertake a peace initiative, clean Israel's hands, or be dragged after matters which appear, at this stage, as successes?

[Question] I wanted to ask you another question and that is not what I meant. Yesterday, the prime minister expressed -- and I am quoting again -- willingness to establish a commission of inquiry to examine the moves made in the war. Do you support the establishment of a commission of inquiry?

[Answer] Well, there are matters that do not need to be investigated. The differences of opinion between us do not need investigation. The differences of opinion between us do not need investigation. They are clear and specific. Afterward, there are things that should be investigated. For example, the functioning of the government, not the functioning of the army. I think that the army functioned well, overall, in this war in terms of its consideration and refraining from hitting civilians.

But how were decisions made, how did a campaign that was supposed to be restricted in time, in scope and in everything involved, turn in fact into quite a prolonged war? If I were the prime minister, if the prime minister were to ask me, I would propose to him that he establish a committee of inquiry to investigate the government's functioning. But -- just a moment -- there are two committees of inquiry here: one is parliamentary and one is governmental. The governmental one can investigate the functional side. In my opinion, the government should do this.

[Question] Would you be prepared....

[Answer] And if they propose a parliamentary committee of inquiry -- as the prime minister said yesterday, to investigate the opposition -- fine, very good. The opposition is prepared to be investigated. I think that we behaved perfectly in this war. We refrained from disclosing differences of opinion, and, in my heart, I know that we are too small a country to be divided in time of war, and we are too democratic a country to suddenly become a country of one voice and one opinion.

[Question] Mr Peres, I think that here, in terms of news, you are saying something new in regard to supporting the establishment of a commission of inquiry. The question is whether you would need party approval for this, if this needs to be voted on by the Alignment?

[Answer] Yes, yes, although regarding such a proposal I will certainly express my views. But the decision that is made will stand. We are a democratic party.

[Question] Mr Peres, you are favoring the establishment of a national commission of inquiry. That is to say, that the prime minister will approach the president of the Supreme Court to ask him to appoint such a commission of inquiry, something like -- if not in the personal composition, then in the functional sense -- the investigative committee set up after the Yom Kippur war. Is this what you have in mind?

[Answer] Not exactly. I mean in terms of the nature of the committee. Yes, I mean a national commission that will be established by the Cabinet. As for the subject of the inquiry, in the Yom Kippur war it involved the army. This time, in my opinion, it is necessary to investigate how decisions were made, how the Cabinet functioned -- and I am saying this in view of the criticism voiced by the ministers themselves, and in view of how this was expressed in the press.

[Question] If I remember correctly, Mr Peres, I believe the prime minister said yesterday that if a request should come from the Labor Party for the establishment of a commission of inquiry, one would be set up within 24 hours. The question is whether such an appeal will indeed be made?

[Answer] Yes, but he suggested something else, for which I am deeply sorry. The matter should be studied carefully.

There is a parliamentary commission of inquiry, which in fact means that there would be clashes between the two factions. I have no objection to this. If he wants to examine the opposition, let him do so. The thing is that every war should be reviewed and lessons should be learned.

[Question] So you mean a national commission of inquiry, as it is so termed and defined by law?

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] Perhaps you could state what that committee would have to investigate.

[Answer] Do you want the precise text? I cannot pull one out of the hat. I cannot extemporize. What I am saying is that it must investigate the government's functioning in times of war -- the decision-making process, and what actually happened. Mr Begin invited us on the first day, on 6 June at 1100 to say that the operation would involve 40 km and nothing more. He added, at his own initiative, that he would not permit this campaign to go beyond the well-defined target, about which he wrote to the U.S. President, to the French president, and besides which I believe was his true intention. We must provide the answer to ourselves about how this operation, intended to last for 2 or 3 days and to reach the 40-km line, turned into what it became -- irrespective of whether it was successful or not. This is a secondary question.

[Question] If the commission should reach an unequivocal conclusion that the Cabinet's moves were justified, would you regard this as the end of the affair, in which case the Alignment would cease attacking and criticizing the Cabinet's policy?

[Answer] No, there are things over which we differ. That commission does not have to rule on whether we are allowed to be the Middle East's police or not.

[Question] These are matters of ideology?

[Answer] This is an ideological matter. Am I in an argument over the ideological sphere? This is a totally different matter. There is an ideological plane, and there is a functional plane.

[Question] But if you had joined a national unity government, and say an Alignment leader had been defense minister, do you think you could have prevented the war?

[Answer] Possibly. I do not know. Right now I would not like to say anything about this, since I think there is almost no point in speculating on it. There were things I suggested at the time, but today I am not ready to do so. Even if it would win me some points, I would not like to make gains out of this.

[Question] Mr Peres, if I understand you correctly, what you have just been saying is in fact that at the time you supported joining a national unity government.

[Answer] That is correct.

[Question] Prior to the war?

[Answer] Yes, before the war -- out of the hope that either we would be able to avoid it or we could limit its scope. We made no secret of our position. Goodness knows we did not! And at the time I even told my colleagues that I doubted that the government was serious in its suggestion. Also, I saw that there was internal opposition and that, although it may have led to a decision, it could also have led to division.

[Question] But, Mr Peres, in view of our situation now where, to use a euphemism, the Alignment does not trust the current Cabinet, would you once again suggest to the Alignment that it join a national unity government to help Israel?

[Answer] My answer is a firm negative. In order to help the Israeli Government today one must discuss peace, not war. Each period has its own topic. Today the problem is how to resume the autonomy talks and what to discuss with the Arabs. All this derives from the answer to the question of what kind of Israel we would like to have. We can attain a greater Eretz Yisra'el, but therein lies a Jewish state whose existence is questionable, a Jewish state that could turn into a binational state.

[Question] Yes, but at the time you supported -- and this is the first time you are revealing you supported -- joining a national unity government because Israel was in a serious political and security predicament. Well, the situation has not changed, and Israel's political and security situation is still serious. Why, then, are you not supporting the idea of establishing a national unity government now?

[Answer] I have explained that for the sake of war, or its prevention, or for the purpose of limiting it or creating the possibility of cancelling it, it takes a national unity government. Today, in the heat of the debate over the future of Israel, we differ; we have our own approach. David Ben-Gurion decided on the partitioning of the land, and I believe that Israel would not have come to be if it were not for this. I believe that by annexing the 1,300,000 Arabs we will be endangering Israel's existence as a Jewish state. We must fight for the public's opinion; this is self-evident.

[Question] Mr Peres, I believe that on this "Moqed" program you have presented new positions on the issue of setting up a national commission of inquiry and on the fact that at the time you supported the establishment of a national unity government. I would like to look inside the Alignment itself. You must certainly be aware of the fact that public opinion polls have indicated a drop for the Alignment -- this, at least, is the impression from the polls -- as well as a certain decline, or a certain low in your own personal popularity. How do you explain this? Can the Alignment not explain its positions?

[Answer] No. On the eve of the elections, 2 weeks prior to the elections, after the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor, the public opinion polls indicated a drop for the Alignment, down to 28 seats. In other words, among the public in general -- and I would say whenever there is a tense period or a state of war -- who would not pray for the Cabinet's success, for the end of the war and for this end to be successful? What is so surprising about this? To me it seems natural. However, 2 weeks after we got only 28 seats in the public opinion polls, we got 47 in the elections -- in fact we missed the 48th seat by 150 votes.

So it seems to me that the polls also reflect moods. Now, too, interestingly enough, in the very polls that gave the Likud such a large margin over us, more than 60 percent oppose the annexation of Judaea and Samaria, or the territories. That is to say, there is some correlation between the two. Personally, I have experienced ups and downs: Eighteen months ago I headed the list, ahead of Mr Begin, now I am lower in the polls. I cannot decide my positions according to polls. I must ask myself when I wake up in the morning what is good and what is bad for Israel, and express my views at an inconvenient time, even at the risk of losing popularity.

[Question] Finally, Mr Peres, I would like to ask you -- seeing that our time is nearly out, or is about to end: Writer 'Amos 'Oz said, in an interview granted to the DAVAR weekly magazine, which is an interesting interview, the following about the Alignment: The Alignment leaders might die in opposition because, deep inside, they are incapable of disconnecting themselves from the position of power. What do you think of Mr 'Oz's statement?

[Answer] I have a lot of respect for 'Amos 'Oz and his writing, but I do not think he claims to be gifted with prophetic powers. I have often been in opposition, but I did not fear it, both in various periods of my life and during the many times when I was in government. This is not what lures me. I believe that we have an idea, for which we are fighting, that we are not in competition for power but that we represent an alternative for the good of Israel. No articles, even by people whom I greatly respect, will divert me from this belief. I have been fighting for this all my life, from the day I became an adult. This is my duty, although I know there are moments when you are pressured from all sides, predicting all sorts of things. It is necessary to remain steadfast in beliefs and approach.

[Ahime'ir] Mr Peres, our time is up. Who knows, perhaps a national commission of inquiry will be set up in the next few days. The prime minister supports it, as you do. I thank you for coming to the "Moqed" studio, and I also thank my colleagues, Nisim Mish'al and Yorah Ronen. To the viewers at home, good evening and shalom.

Begin's Office Reacts

TA261204 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Today the prime minister's office issued an explanation following the "Moqed" program broadcast on television last night. According to the explanation, the viewers that watched the program last night -- which featured MK Shim'on Peres -- was misled, because two interviewers claimed that Mr Begin had agreed to the establishment of a commission of inquiry concerning Operation Peace for Galilee. The prime minister's office reports that the prime minister's position is that if the opposition demands the establishment of such an investigation committee it will be established -- a committee by the government or by the Knesset majority — and the intention of the committee will be to investigate the behavior of some of the opposition members during the war.

Well, it looks like the explanation itself needs to be explained: The prime minister's office is saying that if the opposition demands a commission of inquiry to examine the war, the government will establish such an investigation committee, but to investigate the opposition.

ZE'EV SCHIFF ON ISRAELI, PLO GAINS, LOSSES IN WAR

TA201547 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 20 Aug 82 pp 13, 20

[Commentary by Ze'ev Schiff: "The PLO's Failures and Success"]

[Text] The clearing of west Beirut of PLO commands and fighters is the end of the first act in the play called "The War in Lebanon," but it marks only the beginning of another act: the Palestinian problem. The IDF twisted the arms of the PLO and the enemy forces in Beirut, but this will not deter our enemies from organizing a victory parade. Everyone will be celebrating the victory, except the dead and their families.

The IDF has scored a victory and Israel reached an important goal, although it has not fully achieved the objective. Our information staff has already begun talking about the need to arrange festivities in Qiryat Shemona and Avivim and to ask the east Beirut churches to let their bells chime.

The Syrians, who maintained a fighting force in Beirut, will no doubt present this battle as a latter-day Faluja, or perhaps even something greater. They will say they fought proudly, arguing that they are not withdrawing but merely complying with the request of the Lebanese president, who is formally responsible for the Syrian deterrent force in Lebanon, that they redeploy.

They will leave along with their heavy arms. They, along with the Palestine Liberation Army units subordinate to them, will undoubtedly hold a victory demonstration in Damascus, and they may well subsequently redeploy in the Lebanese Al-Biqa' Valley.

The terrorists have already launched their barrages of victory proclamations. 'Arafat and Qaddumi have already said that the PLO and its fighters are the only ones in the Middle East to face the Israeli war machine. They did something no regular Arab army ever did. That is why they will present the Beirut story, despite the withdrawal, as a victory. They will do everything to append the story of the siege of Beirut to stories like the battle of Stalingrad.

The truth, as usual, lies somewhere in the middle. The military victory is without doubt Israel's. But, as in every war, things do not end with the military chapter. We learned this well in the Yom Kippur war. Therefore, in order to properly assess the achievements and the defeats, the victory and the price we paid for it, we must have a broader perspective, one which will no doubt be formed in time. The political, economic, social and moral balance sheets of the war -- and in regard to terrorism, too -- can only be drawn up in the next stage.

Anyone who wants to evaluate the military victory and examine it, must first of all balance it against Israel's initial objectives at the outset of the war. I mean here the real targets Begin and Sharon set, not those sold to the representatives of the opposition and to the public. From the start, they did not want to stop at the 40-km line, even though this was agreed upon in the Cabinet, and therefore the evacuation of the terrorists from Beirut is a victory for Begin and Sharon even though they did not initially intend to reach the Lebanese capital, expecting the Christians to carry out the job. Two almost distinctly separate campaigns were conducted in Lebanon: one against the terrorists and another against the Syrians. Even though there is some link between the goals of both wars, let us at this point only address ourselves to the military aspect of the fight against the terrorists.

The battle against the terrorists had two stages. The first was conducted in the south, up to Beirut. In the south the terrorists were obliterated rather easily. This was an unambiguous, unquestionable terrorist defeat, despite their "infrastructure," their many weapons and their semiregular units. Thus one can rightfully argue that this was an easy Israeli victory. Pitted against a few thousand unorganized guerrilla fighters stood divisions equipped with plentiful armor and artillery pieces, with the world's most efficient air force.

But, if we examine this from the PLO command's point of view, it was a Palestinian failure because they were unable to even properly activate what stood at their disposal. They did not fight too badly; they caused traffic jams for our columns and caused us quite a few losses in lives. But all in all, they failed to activate their artillery against us as we were progressing, and similarly failed in operating their tanks. They could likewise not properly utilize the thousands of mines they had and did not even blow up the bridges along the advance axes.

The second stage involved the fighting in Beirut. Here the nature of the fighting was different. The terrorists stood it rather successfully despite our massive artillery, our raids and the air force attacks. They evinced courage in their fighting and caused us quite a few casualties even though we did not penetrate the city.

None of their leaders was hurt in the battle, and even though we were but 1 km away from their command posts, and although they used to roam around the streets of Beirut throughout the siege, we in no way managed to hit either 'Arafat, his deputies or George Habash.

Still, one ought to remember that the Israeli objective of removing them from Beirut was achieved. This success stands out even more in view of the fact that we did not score it while launching a massive invasion. All the suggestions that this be done were rejected either in the Cabinet or in practice. This is an Israeli military achievement by means of a partial siege, military pressure by way of firing incidents and encroachments, psychological pressure as well as pressure by the local population on the PLO. This was coupled with Arab pressure.

This IDF military success will no doubt have an effect on the terrorists' morale, but let us not overestimate this. There is another side to the coin, too. The terrorists are not leaving Beirut broken and shattered; they are withdrawing as a united military body, walking rather erect after this bitter combat. They are leaving as a military force, departing in proper uniform, with banners and flags.

Anyone familiar with national fights of this type knows how much such an outward appearance and such unity affect and contribute toward greater unification and internal pride. We as Israelis should be aware of this more than anyone else. If the battle over Al-Karamah in 1968 was turned by the Palestinians into a lever to boost their concept of an internal victory and for the unification of their ranks, Beirut will certainly become a symbol of unity as far as they are concerned. The PLO fighters may have lost the battle, but they leave Beirut with important aggregate military experience, having withstood the bombings and the heavy shooting, proving to themselves that they are courageous enough to face the IDF and its aircraft.

The greatest damage to the PLO is not the loss of arms. This can be replenished by two shiploads from the Soviet Union. The greatest damage it suffered is the loss of a territorial stronghold near Israel's border. This will still not eliminate the possibility of carrying out terrorist acts inside Israel, as it did through Jordan, despite Husayn. But from now on it will be more difficult for it to carry out such penetrations and shellings. (Incidentally, the PLO found it very difficult to operate even before that, and that is because of the defense system we set up.) After their withdrawal, and the Jordanian and Lebanese experience, not even one Arab country will agree to let them set up a military stronghold on its soil. This loss makes it easier also to establish an independent Lebanese administration, but this is a different problem and a separate goal.

For the PLO this defeat means the loss of the mini-Palestine it set up in southern Lebanon, but we failed to expel them from all of Lebanon, as we declared we would. This has not been achieved for now, at least. A terrorist stronghold remains in Tripoli; in the Al-Biqa' Valley there are several thousand of them plus volunteers. In the area we control, there are certainly a few hundred more. In Beirut, as well, definitely many more will also remain. The Phalangists will try to hunt them so we should not be surprised if in the future, after the multinational force leaves, we too will be incorporated into such a penetration to search for the remaining ones in Beirut. All these are strongholds left in Lebanon, but they are more distant and limited by virtue of their being under the supervision and aegis of the Syrians.

The loss of the territorial hold for the Palestinians means the end of one stage of their struggle. This stage began in 1969-70, upon the establishment of their base in Fatahland in Lebanon and their expulsion from Jordan in September 1970.

The loss of the stronghold and their departure to Arab countries will result in the dispersal of their military power. It is not that their concentrated power constituted a danger to Israel; it has never been anything more than a nuisance and a cause of regional pressure. But, on the one hand, their dispersal results in less danger; but, on the other hand, it will make it more difficult for us to react and operate against terrorist objectives should they carry out terrorist acts in Israel or abroad.

When Nahariyya is fired upon, we could bomb a target in Beirut. Will we now have to operate against targets inside Syria, get involved in a fight with them, or would it be against Tunisia or Yemen? Any PLO organization will operate more independently and we will find it harder to point to the one responsible for the killing of Jews in Paris or the assassins of an Israeli ambassador.

Among the causes of the PLO's defeat it is necessary to add another that surfaced during the war. The war showed to what extent it is isolated in the Arab world and how little an Arab country is prepared to risk on its behalf. Not only did Moscow satisfy itself with only voicing words in its favor when it was enbroiled in clashes in Beirut, but its Arab brethren did not even pretend to put up a show of force for it. Saudi Arabia, which applied such heavy pressure on Washington, is not prepared to absorb even one Palestinian.

This is the list of PLO defeats. This is failure, but it is in no way complete, just as the 1948 war and the 6-day war were not complete as far as the Palestinians are concerned. Along with the unambiguous defeats, leaving Israel with new problems to tackle as we pointed out above, the PLO had some successes in this war. The first and most outstanding of them is that the world has seen that what the PLO calls "the Palestinian Revolution" exists.

Even though Israel tried to stamp out and uproot the problem, it is there. The PLO was not liquidated, but what is worse for Israel is that world sympathy for the Palestinians has increased. The recognition of the existence of this problem has deepened. Many, including Washington, made efforts to save the PLO, even though it is considered a terrorist organization. The sympathy for the Palestinian cause will overcome the revulsion to the murders and the terrorism of the PLO. The Palestinian problem will bother the world's conscience more than ever before, and the PLO might consequently turn into a more legitimate interlocutor than before. We, too, conducted indirect negotiations with it, so let us not be surprised if the indirect Washington-PLO contacts become more direct, just as many other European countries will likely adopt the French approach toward the PLO.

It looks as though this is more than a PLO gain from this war. It marks an Israeli failure begun even before the war first broke out. We, and only we, elevated the Palestinian issue to the top. One must recall that since As-Sadat came to Jerusalem and the Camp David accords were signed, the Palestinian issue has assumed secondary dimensions, and this was further reinforced as a result of the Iraq-Iran war. The Israeli Government, obsessed by its Palestinian demon, pushed the issue up, back to the top. It is true that one cannot tell how long this trend will continue, but clearly it is precisely this war that increased the chances for the recognition of and dialogue with the PLO in the world, or to put it the way many Palestinians do: This is the shortcut toward a Palestinian state.

Unfortunately, this war has shaken Israel's moral standing in the eyes of many nations of the world and the international public. The PLO does not strike a more moral image, but Israel looks different after the battle of Beirut. No one who has heard statements by friendly Western personalities who visited west Beirut can change the impression created by their remarks on the multitudes of casualties -- including women, the elderly and children, many, many of them Lebanese -- have formed.

This will plague us for a long time, and the negative image will possibly stick to us forever. The shellings of Qiryat Shemona have lost their impact, like a drop in the ocean. Our arguments that Israel is the one harassed, have been totally erased when one speaks of our war with the Arabs. The horrendously vile deeds perpetrated against Jews in Paris have already been called by some the revenge of those who were hit in Beirut. This will no doubt be the dominant tone if Israelis or their institutions are hit.

After the withdrawal from Beirut, Palestinian terrorism abroad will most likely increase. It appears as though this time both Fatah and foreign terrorist organizations, like the Armenian underground, will contribute to this.

To recall, we set out on this war after Ambassador Argov was hit, but since then, Palestinian terrorism in Europe has grown a hundredfold. Jews are being killed and anti-Semitism has uncovered its ugly face in many places.

We will without doubt discover that terrorism has more faces than we perceived. Instead of mines wounding our soldiers near Marj 'Uyun in southern Lebanon, they are being hit by bazookas fired near 'Alayh and by lethal boobytrapped cars in Bhamdun.

The problem of terrorism is far from being resolved. It is more complex, and perhaps even more bloody. What is ironic about this problem is that those of us who claim that we should not make an effort to talk with the Palestinians and reach a compromise with them, will now argue that the renewed wave of terrorism is proof of the justness of the contention that there is no chance of holding a dialogue with the Palestinian people.

Another phenomenon which the PLO could possibly regard as an indirect success is the lack of national consensus in Israel on the Palestinian issue. On this, the gap is wide, both in Israel and among many Jews abroad. The latter will be hurt by anti-Semitism and terrorism, but people will still be found who will argue that it is militant Zionism that exacerbates anti-Semitism, arousing it and turning it in the eyes of many into something semilegitimate. The reaction will not be directed at the Begin government, but against all of Israel, in all its shades, as the Labor Party has predicted.

The argument in Israel will deepen as a result of the war over such goals as the liquidation of refugee camps so that refugees would not be able to return to them. Therefore, it would be a mistake to think that the latest massive bombing of Beirut is merely a problem involving Sharon and the government, or Begin and Reagan. It is also a problem with which we are faced among ourselves, among our soldiers and pilots.

All this goes to show that we will not be able to avoid the Palestinian problem. We will not be able to avoid holding discussions with them, be it with the PLO or with its heirs. It does not look like Begin will do it, but even if the Likud remains in power for a long time, ultimately Begin's successors wil do it-- be Sharon, Weizman, Levi or Aridor. Hints and signals indicating this can already be heard today, behind the scenes. So we have scored a military victory, but from the political aspect as well as the moral and information angle, we suffered painful losses, just as we will regarding terrorism in the future. The political viewpoint has an ironic touch to it. Those who want a compromise with the Palestinians do not mourn the political loss. To them it seems better because they think it could prompt a mutual recognition between the two peoples.

In the course of the battles we killed some 1,000 Palestinian fighters (a small number compared to what they lost in Jordan during the civil war), but we are left with the problem in our hands. There is no more picturesque way of illustrating this than the masses of Palestinian captives we are holding. We have imprisoned some 7,000 Palestinians. Mayby only half of them are really terrorists. What should be done with them? Should we take them in and add them to the burgeoning Palestinian population in Israel and in the territories, realizing that many of them will return to actively promoting establishment of a Palestinian state? Or should we leave them in Lebanon and thus strengthen the Palestinian infrastructure there once again? Or perhaps we should expel them to another country, even though no Arab country wants them, where they would join the Palestinian deployment in Al-Biqa' and Tripoli once more? When 'Arafat suggested that we release many of them in return for the pilot and the bodies of the soldiers, we hastened to respond in the negative, as always. This merely underlines the fact that it is our problem, not the Palestinians', and that we will not be able to circumvent it with the help of only the F-5's and the Merkava tanks.

HUNGARY'S JUHAR ACCEPTS SEMINAR INVITATION

TA261622 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1555 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Jerusalem, 26 Aug (ITIM) -- The Hungarian tourism minister announced today that he will visit Israel as the guest of his Israeli counterpart, Avraham Sharir.

The Hungarian minister, Zoltan Juhar, met with Sharir at the International Tourism Organization conference in Mexico. The meeting was held in a friendly atmosphere and lasted some 20 minutes.

The Hungarian minister accepted the Israeli minister's invitation, announcing that he would come to Israel next March. He is to participate in an international tourism seminar that will be held in Jerusalem to discuss investment and tourist attractions. Representatives from 14 tourism ministries from European countries will also attend the conference.

MK SHAPIRA TO CONTINUE AS COALITION CHAIRMAN

TA261235 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 26 Aug 82 p 2

[Report by Yehoshu'a Bitzur]

[Text] Prime Minister Menahem Begin has decided that the chairman of the coalition Executive, MK Avraham Shapira (Agudat Yisra'el), will continue in this role, although the Herut Knesset faction had vigorously demanded the position in accordance with an agreement reached more than a year ago, that MK Roni Milo be entrusted with it.

MK Shapira, then, will henceforth serve as chairman of the coalition Executive, chairman of the Bank of Israel advisory committee and as a member of the Knesset Finance Committee and of the central institutions of Agudat Yisra'el, apart from his diverse personal affairs.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND DEFENSE COMMITTEE ENLARGED

TA270846 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 27 Aug 82 p 1

[Report by Yitzhaq Shor]

[Excerpt] Yesterday the Knesset approved the agreement between the Likud and the Alignment according to which the number of members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee is to be increased from 21 to 25. The Alignment hawks are demanding the convening of the Alignment faction next week in order to discuss a reelection of the Alignment's representatives to the committee, their main intention being to have Yosi Sarid dismissed.

The chairman of the Knesset House Committee, E. Livni, informed the Knesset plenum that Yiga'el Hurvitz and Me'ir Kohen will be incorporated into the committee on behalf of the Likud. The Alignment has not yet decided on its representatives, but it is clear that one of them will be Hayim Herzog. In the past the Likud gave up two places in favor of small factions, and instead of the Likud Knesset members, Shmu'el Halpert, Agudat Yisra'el, and Ge'ula Kohen, Tehiya are members of the committee. Ge'ula Kohen became a member after Me'ir Kohen temporarily gave his place up to her. Hurvitz will enter in the framework of the agreement for Telem's joining the coalition.

From now on the division of seats in the committee will be as follows: 12 from the Likud, 1 from NRP, and 12 from the Alignment. From now on every fifth Knesset member will be a member of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee.

ALGERIA

ASSEMBLY SPEAKER MEETS WITH SOVIET DELEGATION

LD261346 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Rabah Bitat, member of the FLN Political Bureau and speaker of the People's National Assembly, received at his office this morning the Soviet parliamentary delegation led by T. K. Koshoyev, deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium [title as received] and chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Kirgiz SSR, accompanied by Aleksandr Subbotin, secretary of the Soviet All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions.

During the meeting, the two sides exchanged views on the current situation in the Middle East in light of recent developments following the imperialist, barbaric Israeli aggression on the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples.

The talks also were attended by the deputy speaker of the People's National Assembly, Abderrahman Belayyid, and the chairman of the assembly's Foreign Relations Committee, Abdelaziz Mohamed.

LIBYA

AZ-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR CRITICIZES MOROCCAN REGIME

LD232300 Tripoli JANA in English 1843 GMT 23 Aug 82

[Quotation marks as received]

[Text] Tripoli, Dhulqidah 4, August 23 -- Jamahiriyah News Agency -- The newspaper AZ-ZAHF AL-AKHDAR, mouthpiece of the revolutionary committees, today published an editorial entitled "The Moroccan King's Campaign of Oppression." In it, the paper analysed the deteriorating economic, military and political conditions under the reactionary monarchic regime.

It said, "We are viewing with a mixture of sorrow, pain and horror the Moroccan king, the commander of the faithfuls' criminal war against the people of the Western Sahara, all in a bid to build the Moroccan throne....

There is much sorrow for the loss of tens of thousands of victims in the Western Saharan war....Anyone with revolutionary consciousness will be taken aback by the savagery of the Moroccan king's war against the Sahara under the false banner of annexing the Sahara to the 'mother country.'

Following an analysis of the conditions, causes and goals of the Western Sahara war, we can arrive at several conclusions.

Firstly, economic ambitions:

Since the sixties, the Morccan king, his majesty the amir of believers, who succeeded the throne with U.S. imperialism's help, had his eyes on the natural resources of the Sagui el Hamra and Rio de Oro.

He always kept his ties with the Spanish Government that colonized the Sahara and built special relations with Spain and relied on Spanish technical skill to build his deteriorating economy and in a desperate attempt, since the seventies, to face the mass upheaval against his regime. The king was also hoping to get some military assistance through his relations with the Spanish Government.

He also tried, during that period, to avoid a confrontation with his neighbours -- Algeria and Mauritania, during late President Boumediene and Ould Dada of Mauritania. He became extremely hostile to the Algerian people, but stretched his bloody hands to Ould Dada. But luckily, the National Salvation Government had rescued the people of Mauritania and took the country out of this mess that was orchestrated by the king and implemented by the deposed Ould Dada. Such steps taken by Hassan are aimed at deepening the rift between the different Arab countries.

Secondly, the artificial creation of the war to divert the Moroccan people's attention from domestic conditions: It is worth noting that the Moroccan king launched his criminal war to divert the Moroccan people's attention from the worsening domestic situation which threatens to explode.

On the political level, there is growing anger and disdain against the king and his coterie for the following domestic and external reasons:

-- The imprisonment of tens of thousands of political opponents for several years and their deprivation from the most basic human rights. The families of political prisoners detained in Kenitra's central prison sent an open letter to the Morrocan king's minister of justice calling on him to release their sons who have been convicted to long periods in jail stretching to life imprisonment for committing the "high treason" of expressing their own beliefs and differing with the king and his government's policies.

-- The corruption and corrupting influence of the king's entourage.

-- The pro-Western, pro-American policy of the Moroccan regime. As a result of this policy, Morocco has been transformed into an advanced imperialist post with military installations in:

1. Kenitra military base. The base was established during the second world war, but the Americans developed it during Hassan's reign and it is now being used by the U.S. Department of Defence, U.S. Air Force and the Sixth Fleet.

2. (Bou Kanadel) military base. This base is the most vital to the Reagan administration which is constantly trying to spread its hegemony over the world's peoples and robbing them of their resources. The base, operated by the U.S. Navy, is used for radar and communications.

3. Sidi Benyahia base. The base has giant ammunition stores and an advanced early warning and communications station.

4. Giant military barracks capable of accomodating more than 30,000 soldiers, and training grounds for mercenaries, or as they are called by the Americans "Special Forces," for anti-guerilla warfare, or, as is understood through our revolutionary ideology, for fighting against those who are struggling for the liberation of their people and their salvation.

In accordance with an agreement signed on April 19, 1966, the (Al Nouaser) airport in Casablanca can be used in times of world crises (i.e. when the Sherefian family or other collaborationist reactionary regimes sympathetic to the U.S. are threatened) by the American administration.

The Moroccan regime has also passed extraordinary laws placing these bases, which are part of Moroccan territory, under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Defense Department.

Furthermore, there is public indignation regarding the presence of more than 3,400 military advisers who have been granted diplomatic immunity. In other words, these advisers are not subject to Moroccan law.

The treacherous role of these bases has been proved in the past, for they were used on several occasions, including the Biafra war in Nigeria and in supporting the Congolese reactionary forces against Patrice Lumumba, liberator of the Congolese people from foreign colonialism and American hegemony.

Such bases were used to receive the F-5 jets which were used during the Vietnam war and the Middle East war in 1973. The air base on Moroccan soil was also used to protect the Zairian regime in 1977 during the troubles in Shaba Province.

The reason behind the Moroccan people's anger against the regime is because of the monarchic rule of the king and his two sons, who is just like other kings and sultans who usurped the authority from the people.

The economic situation has become extremely acute and for the Moroccan people, the only way out is to get rid of the king.

The economic situation was the reason behind the June 1982 strike which was called by Lebanese journalists "black June". Prior to the June uprising the government had put prices up and following the incidents the government was forced to reduce the increase to half its earlier level.

Diverting the attention of the Moroccan Army from its true role.

The Moroccan king's thinking is dominated by the fear of a military coup. In the early seventies, an abortive military coup took place in Skhirat and later, a plane carrying the Moroccan king was attacked.

Because of these experiences, Hassan was left with the sole option of sending the army to the Western Sahara and attempting to convince them of the 'truth' of the cause they are fighting for.

The Moroccan king therefore ordered Col Ahmad Dlimi to command the Moroccan forces to secure the political survival of his family and his throne.

Wiping out groups opposed to the king within the army to prolong his survival. [sentence as received]

Based upon these precepts, Hassan threw in his army into the Western Sahara to serve several purposes:

1 - Divert its attention from its basic role in the holy Arab war against Israel. This purpose has been reinforced by the United States' protection of Israel, for America can hardly expect one of its agent regimes to oppose its Zionist creation.

2 - Using the army internally to crush the regime's opponents [word indistinct] and diverting it from playing its role in correcting Morocco's political economic and social paths.

For these and other reasons, the Saharan war was embarked upon by the Moroccan king to annihilate the country's Arab people...

On the social front, Moroccan society has a lot of social diseases such an inequality, prostitution and poverty. Let us take the Moroccan city of Casablanca, as a clear example of the class differences in Moroccan society. In one part of the city, you find places and villas as well as luxury hotels and night clubs. On the other side, you find the majority of the people in the city living in makeshift houses and huts, deprived from the most basic human needs. You find children in worn-out clothes and bare-footed. It is also a common scene in Morocco to find students at night studying in the streets of rich parts of the city because of the lack of electricity in their own area.

COMMENTARY RECALLS GULF OF SIDRA INCIDENT

LD181506 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Aug 82

[Text] On this day last year, the American 6th Fleet began a 3-day naval military maneuver in the Mediterranean Basin during which it committed an aggressive operation against the security and stability of the people of the Jamahiriyah, contrary to international laws and norms as its forces violated the inviolability of the territorial waters of the Gulf of Sidra, which by law is under Libya's control. However, the large armies of America that are armed to the teeth with the latest weapons and equipment did not frighten the Libyan people and could not harm their unlimited dignity and nationalism. Libyans showed their traditional stand and their courageous sacrifices when the Libyan planes intercepted the American planes flying over the Gulf of Sidra and downing one military aircraft.

This courageous stand enjoyed the support and solidarity of the world. Perhaps the huge formal and popular attendance witnessed by the international conference for solidarity with the people of the Jamahiriyah held 28-31 September 1981 is categorical proof of the extent of the confidence which the peoples and states entertain for the Great September Revolution and the high appreciation of its role as the vanguard of the liberation movement in the world, a fact which the leader of the revolution asserted at the very same conference when he addressed the participants, saying: Your solidarity with the Libyan people means they are right and it also means America is wrong and the aggressor; this is the strongest evidence and argument and the best testimony about the justness of the policy which the Libyan people are pursuing.

It is not odd or unlikely that America, which surrounded the peoples with their military bases and spread on their territories the nuclear centers of fear, should commit the ugliest crimes against all stabilized, peaceful peoples, particularly against the Libyan people who back and support liberation movements and strengthen the causes of peoples still under the yoke of its imperialist hegemony. The American aggression on the Gulf of Sidra and the other American aggressive measures to hinder the major humanitarian role of the Great September Revolution will remain historic evidence of America's aggressive reality and a graphic picture of American terrorism for all peoples.

MAURITANIA

FOREIGN MINISTER EXPLAINS VISIT TO ALGIERS

AB252151 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1400 GMT 25 Aug 82

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs left Nouakchott yesterday for Algiers with a message from the head of state to Mohammed Abdelaziz, secretary general of the Polisario.

Before his departure, Cmdr Ahmed Ould Minnih discussed the purpose of his mission with Dicko Soudani:

[Begin recording] The purpose of my mission to Algeria is to transmit to His Excellency Mohamed Abdelaziz, secretary general of the Polisario, a message from His Excellency Lt Col Khouna Ould Haydala, chairman of the Military Committee for National Salvation [CMSN] and head of state, on the very good relations between the leaders of the two countries and their peoples. We wish to further strengthen these relations.

[Question] Mr Minister, what do you think about the unwelcome things former Senegalese President Leopold Sedar Senghor said about our country during a program on Radio France International?

[Answer] These things were said by the former president of a brotherly neighboring country with which we maintain healthy and purposeful relations. These relations demand that we respect the Senegalese personality. We think it would have been more courteous of Leopold Sedar Senghor to not make such remarks, thus ensuring his respect. On the other hand, we understand his sentiments in favor of Morocco -- sentiments that can be expressed without harming the good relations between our country and Senegal. It is worth emphasizing that contrary to the utterances of Leopold Sedar Senghor, the number of Mauritanian prisoners is under (?60). In the first place, the families [words indistinct]. [end recording]

The minister is accompanied on this trip by Ahmed Ould Vanal, secretary general of his department.

SUDAN

NUMAYRI: AL-QADHDHAFI IS FRIEND OF NOBODY

GF251943 Jidda AL-MADINAH in Arabic 22 Aug 82 p 1

["Exclusive" statement by President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri to AL-MADINAH correspondent in Khartoum -- date not given]

[Text] In a statement to an AL-MADINAH correspondent in Khartoum, Sudanese President Marshal Ja'far Muhammad Numayri revealed that Col al-Qadhdhafi sent and is still sending saboteurs to Sudan after training them in Libya. He said: We are now trying some of these saboteurs and we will be trying others -- those who have confessed that Al-Qadhdhafi trained, armed and financed them to carry out subversive acts in Sudan. President Numayri revealed that there are 24 camps in Libya for training elements from various African and Arab countries in subversion and terrorism.

President Numayri said his political, informational and military warfare with Col al-Qadhdhafi will continue because that is what Al-Qadhdhafi wants. He said: We don't want to carry out subversive acts similar to the acts Al-Qadhdhafi carries out against us in Sudan because the Sudanese are naturally charitable and reject evil. He said the Libyan people are good people and Al-Qadhdhafi is moody and lives only in the dirty water. He said the current aggression against fraternal Somalia is created and financed by Al-Qadhdhafi. He warned the countries that consider Al-Qadhdhafi their friend that Al-Qadhdhafi is a friend of nobody and he will betray both his sincerest friend and his mortal enemy. President Numayri advised Arab countries friendly to Al-Qadhdhafi to be cautious in dealing with him if they are concerned about their security now and in the future.

He said there is no way to avoid divisions and a serious collapse of the OAU unless the Libyan people rid themselves of Al-Qadhdhafi's leadership. He added that the elimination of Al-Qadhdhafi from the political theater is the only way to regain the confidence of a number of African countries in the Arab world, as confidence has been greatly affected by Al-Qadhdhafi's sabotage and disruptive activities in Africa.

Regarding Sudan's relations with Ethiopia, President Numayri said: We are trying to make these relations move in the right direction.

However, Al-Qadhdhafi took advantage of the weak economic situation in Ethiopia. In the name of friendship, Ethiopia opened its doors to Al-Qadhdhafi to send weapons used for training politicians against Sudan in the border areas. Al-Qadhdhafi also trained the elements now fighting against Somalia and supported them with opponents from other countries.

BRIEFS

TRADE AGREEMENT WITH IRAQ -- A 5-year $20 million trade agreement was signed last night between the Democratic Republic of Sudan and the sisterly Republic of Iraq. Various agricultural products, fruits, oil seeds, meat, bicycles, medicines and school equipment will be supplied to Iraq and experience exchanged in industry, agriculture and veterinary science. Agreement also was reached on supplying the Iraqi Republic with Sudanese manpower. [Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 25 Aug 82 LD]

WESTERN SAHARA

POLISARIO COMMUNIQUE ON 7-18 AUG OPERATIONS

NC261429 Paris AFP in English 1314 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Algiers, Aug 26 (AFP) -- Forces of the Polisario Front carried out a series of harrying operations against Moroccan positions in the Smara region of southern Sahara between August 7 and August 18, the guerrilla organisation said today.

A communique by the Sahrawi Information Ministry here said a Moroccan position at Douek was attacked on August 7 and 8, and again on August 10-12 and August 17-18.

The guerrillas also attacked at Rbeib Belaou on August 12 and 13, and at Tachktent on August 11 and 17, it said. Moroccan installations at Gara-Fog-Gara were also bombarded on August 13 and 15.

According to the communique, the operations were carried out with heavy weapons. Unusually, it gave no figure for Moroccan casualties.

KENYA

PRESIDENT MOI ADDRESSES PUBLIC RALLY IN MALINDI

EA251856 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 25 Aug 82

[Excerpt] President Moi addresse a large crowd at Malindi muncipal stadium this afternoon. It was President Moi's second rally today. He pointed out that people who are staying on plots and referred to as squatters should not be harassed until the problem is solved.

Parading [as heard] the MP's from Kilifi District, President Moi wondered why the MP for Kilifi South, Mr Chibule wa Tsumba, did not attend the meeting. The president pointed out that this particular MP, who did not attend the meeting, is either a member of the PAMBANA [name of a banned publication: STRUGGLE] group or doing something which is not good for this nation. Amid shouts of Toboa [Swahili for reveal] from the mammoth crowd, he said that he was not against anybody, but hated people who did not assist wananchi in raising their stand on living.

President Moi went on to say that whereas the country's Constitution provided democracy, it did not allow for the use of guns to rule. He added that he had been preaching peace, love and unity for the last 4 years and the time had come for him to act and act fast. He urged all Kenyans not to elect leaders who did not have their interests at heart. He noted that an African was like a tick and even if he was not wanted, he would not go. He pointed out that such a person should not be elected.

President Moi wondered why some children born in 1960 were claiming to know more [about] administration than their leaders, when they did not understand how difficult the struggle of independence was. The president regretted that some of the students of the university died during the recent disturbances, but wondered why they took uniforms and guns to go out and fight their own government. President Moi further revealed that the people who were behind the recent disturbances were using Malindi as the base for printing the PAMBANA publication in circulation in Nairobi. He called on chiefs and administrative officers in the country to be on the lookout and report them to the authorities.

Saying that his responsibility was to ensure that all Kenyans lived in peace, President Moi revealed that although some people went around shouting praise for the Nyayo [footsteps of Kenyatta] government they were not faithful and the government will now expose them.

President Moi reminded civil servants that their loyalty to the government and the ruling party should be direct and not through groupings. He said that civil servants should do the work they were employed to do to the best of their ability.

MOI SAYS REBELS AFFECTED BY ALCOHOL, DRUGS

EA262006 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Daniel arap Moi today said that he was surprised by the attitude of some councillors, who claimed the credit for good things and blamed the government for their failure. The president expressed the surprise after he was entertained by teams of choirs and traditional dancers from the coast province at the Mombasz state [as heard].

The president said that he wanted all sorts of evils to be eradicated so that the future generations can live in a better society.

Noting with concern that some people had rejoiced during the recent abortive coup, the president wondered whether those rejoicing wanted the government to have problems. He asked the ruling party KANU to be watchful and ensure that the words uttered by the MP's and councillors were beneficial to the country. He stressed that the party must protect wananchi.

The president emphasized the need of the youth to learn about the country. He said that they should learn to become patriots and not rebels or mercenaries. He explained that people with the latter attitude are the ones who love themselves more than others. He revealed that the soldiers of the defunct Kenya Air Force who were responsible for the 1 August disturbances were drunk and that two bags of bhang were found at their Nanyuki base. He went on to say that they were going around with a gun in one hand and a bottle of whiskey in the other. He said that the soldiers wanted to bring back corruption so that the children could suffer.

UGANDA

GOVERNMENT DENIES SUDAN INCURSION ALLEGATIONS

EA262228 Kampala Domestis Service in English 1700 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] The Government of Uganda has lodged a very strong protest today with the office of the representatives of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR]. The protest concerns erroneous and unfounded allegations that were published and broadcast elsewhere in the international media, and particularly by the BBC, that a large number of Ugandans have been running into the Sudan in recent times.

In these publications and broadcasts, allegations were made that there had been continuing fighting in the western region a nd that elements of the Uganda Army had crossed into the Sudan and attacked refugee camps therein.

The Sudanese Embassy in Kampala has assured the Uganda Government that there is no truth whatsoever in any of these allegations, and particularly that the Sudanese authorities have no evidence whatsoever of any incursion by Ugandan troops into the Sudan or recent massive movement of Ugandans into the Sudan.

The Government of Uganda has expressed great concern to the UNHCR representative in Kampala about these unfounded allegations. The Government of Uganda has demanded prompt correction of the allegations by the representative of the UNHCR.

The government wants to assure Ugandans that there has been no fighting in West Nile, that the situation in the West Nile is peaceful, and that no Ugandan troops have crossed into the Sudan. The government reaffirms to the people of Uganda that Ugandans who had previously fled into the Sudan have been returning home in increasingly large numbers and are continuing to do so. The Government of Uganda wishes further to assure the people, in West Nile in particular, that the stability they now enjoy will be strengthened and that they should not be bothered by unfounded allegations by detractors of peace and stability.

CHAD

GOUKOUNI ISSUES CALL TO ARMS AGAINST HABRE

AB261557 Paris AFP in English 1536 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Paris, Aug. 26 (AFP) -- Former Chadian President Goukouni Oueddei has issued a call to arms against Hissein Habre, the man who ousted him from the Chadian capital, and warned against the formation of a new government in Ndjamena.

In an interview with the magazine AFRIQUE-ASIE, Goukouni called for a "redynamisation" of Frolinat (Chad National Liberation Front) and coordination between the northern-based front and political leaders in southern Chad.

Mr Goukouni was ousted when Mr Habre's Armed Forces of the North (FAN) entered Ndjamena on June 7 after a long and bloody civil war.

He described as "unlikely" any entente between Mr Habre and southern Chadian leader Abdel Kader Kamougue. The former president said there had been merely a "misunderstanding" between himself and Colonel Kamougue.

"In order to avoid the division of Chad and not to allow the situation to fester, I opt for the radical solution which consists of sweeping Hissein Habre away definitively and establishing a new power in Chad," he said.

Mr Goukouni, who said that he no longer wished to play a political role in Chad, said that to continue "clinging" to his ousted Government of National Unity would hamper the struggle.

He also said that France had begun to aid Mr Habre. "That worries us. We would have liked it (France) to stay silent and keep its distance until the Organization of African Unity has pronounced on the Chadian affair."

The former president said that the United States was also helping Mr Habre "through intermediary countries -- above all via Saudi Arabia -- and other countries whose names I would rather not mention."

SPOKESMAN REFUTES CLAIMS ON FAN LOSS OF CONTROL

AB261211 Paris AFP in English 1133 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Lagos, Aug. 26 (AFP) -- Hissein Habre, whose Armed Forces of the North (FAN) took control of Ndjamena, the Chadian capital, in June, is no longer in control of the situation in Chad, according to a former minister in the coalition government overthrown by Mr. Habre's rebel forces.

Mahammat Abba Said, former Chadian interior minister and leader of the First Army of Frolinat (Chad Liberation Front), said here that "FAN fighters have nothing to eat and must pillage and hold people to ransom to survive."

Mr. Abba Said said that Frolinat troops were "at this moment carrying on the struggle against the rebel Hissein Habre, and that his men were well dug in and controlled central and eastern central Chad. He added that other Frolinat forces loyal to former President Goukouni Oueddei controlled broad sectors of nothern and northwestern Chad.

In Paris, the claims were refuted today by a spokesman for the Chadian Council of State headed by Mr Habre.

The spokesman, Allam-Mi Ahmad, said in a statement that "four-fifths" of the forces of the former government has done over to the government or been disarmed, and that the rest were "in a pocket in the extreme south of Chad."

Mr Allam-Mi said the FAN controlled the situation "and would be able to go beyond the zones presently under their control if they were not committed to national reconcilation."

Southern Chad is controlled by the Chadian Armed Forces (FAT), under Abdel Kader Kamougue Wadal.

On recent talks in Gabon held on national reconciliation between Chad's different politico-military factions, Mr Abba said that they had no chance of success.

The talks brought together Mr Habre, Col Kamougue, veteran politician Abba Siddick of what is known as the "Original Frolinat" and Azeick ibn Oumar, leader of the Democratic Revolutionary Council (CDR).

"Colonel Kamougue only attended because his Gabonese and Zairean friends pushed him to. As for the CDR, it is presently divided between those who want to fight and those who want to negotiate," Mr Abba Said said.

Asked about the possibility of a settlement in Chad, he said the only possible political solution required the departure of Mr Habre and negotiations with the FAN. But he believed that a military solution might come about. Mr Abba Said also violently criticized the "bias" of the Organization of African Unity troops which he said allowed Mr Habre's forces into Ndjamena instead of defending the government of Mr Goukouni.

In another interview, a FAN spokesman, Guedalla Cusmane Hamidou, said here yesterday that the willingness of Mr Habre's forces to negotiate reconciliation was not a sign of weakness.

The FAN spokesman said that the Mr Goukouni could return from his exile in Algeria. "We maintain no hatred nor tribalism," he said.

"It is time that the Chadian people united, it is necessary to find a peaceful solution to the Chadian problems."

In Ndjamena, the Council of State on Tuesday called southern Chad representatives to a briefing on the national reconciliation talks which have been held in Gabon.

The FAT and FAN delegations parted company in Libreville, on the understanding that the delegates from southern Chad would let it be known when they were ready to return to the negotiating table, sources said.

At the meeting in the Gabonese capital, the Ndjamena delegation reportedly put forward a series of proposals which included the formation of a government of national unity.

Negotiations are continuing in Franceville but have run into the FAT's insistence that they will not take part unless FAN troops based in Bongor, 340 kms (160 miles) south of the Chadian capital withdraw.

But despite the current deadlock in the talks, relations between the two delegations were said to be "fraternal and relaxed." Their forces have not clashed since fighting at Oum Hadjer, central Chad, in March.

ZAIRE

COUNCIL URGES 'LESS EXPENDITURE, MORE REVENUE'

AB220830 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 21 Aug 82

[Text] "Less expenditure, more revenue!" Henceforth, this is the motto of the Executive Council for today and tomorrow. In effect, the 1983 budget should respond to this demand. Next year, we will still have to tighten our belts. This was the most important decision made by the Executive Council at its meeting yesterday, which was essentially budgetary. The future orientation of the national economy is such that the Executive Council has decided to sound the alarm. There should be more strictness in the administration of state affairs. This watchword is addressed mainly to departmental authorities and the budget is the most important. Why the budget? State Commissioner Kande Dzambulate replies:

The state budget, said the spokesman of the Executive Council, is the privileged institution through which the state expresses its views and ambitions in the economic sector. That's not all: It is a concrete tool used to place the economy on a well-defined curve. Through it, a nation can keep a watch on its general economic evolution by maintaining control over the economic indicators at its disposal. It means then, said the state commissioner, that the public authorities should be realistic. The diverse foreign obstacles affecting our economy call for prudent realism, Kande Dzambulate stressed. We should by all means continue the policy of budgetary austerity; that alone can guarantee the upholding of sustained activity for the nation. This sustained activity will not take place by chance, it will be carried out through the realization of balances ensuring both indispensable internal resources and a desirable foreign assistance. Such austerity is simply the expression of our realism.

According to Kande Dzambulate, the Executive Council intends to call on the nation not to live beyond its means. It is not a matter of sacrificing the essential, the state commissioner assured. On the other hand, we safeguard the essential by strictly maintaining state expenditure at the useful limits while we double our efforts to considerably increase our revenue. We therefore need to cut down on our expenditure and at the same time to increase our revenue. These are the two keywords henceforth characterizing Zaire's budget for 1983.

LEGISLATIVE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGNING BEGINS

AB231308 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1130 GMT 23 Aug 82

[Excerpt] The 1982 legislative elections -- it's now or never. The candidates are now free to begin their electoral campaign. In fact, they are everywhere. Their likenesses are seen everywhere -- on tree trunks, on walls of houses, on car doors, on taxis, buses and fula-fula [passenger trucks] -- all these have been plastered with dozens of multicolored posters. Placards and streamers also fly everywhere.

GHANA

GOVERNMENT ISSUES NAMIBIA DAY STATEMENT

AB260820 Accra Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] On the occasion of Namibia Day, which falls today, Ghana has called on all member states of the OAU and all peace-loving peoples of the world to demonstrate in practical terms their solidarity with the freedom fighters of Namibia.

An official statement issued last night said Ghana views as totally unacceptable the racist South African regime's presence in and illegal administration of the territory in flagrant defiance of the ruling of the International Court of Justice in 1971. The statement rejected as untenable the demand by the United States and the racist South African regime for the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola as a precondition for the settlement of the Namibian issue. It said Ghana views this attempt to link Namibia's legitimate aspiration to independence with the presence of Cuban troops in Angola as a pretext for further delaying the process of self-determination of the people of Namibia.

The statement noted with dismay the slow rate of progress in the negotiation for Namibia's independence and called on the five-nation Western contact group to accelerate the negotiation process for the early administration of independence for the territory. The statement reasserts Ghana's faith in the UN Security Council Resolution 435 as the only basis for a fair and just settlement of the Namibian independence issue but warns that any attempt to subvert the strictest application of this resolution will be resolutely resisted by the government and people of Ghana.

In another statement, the Ghana United Nations Association said economic sanctions remain the surest means of derailing the South African economy and bringing the obnoxious practices of racism to an end. The statement said recent victories of liberation struggles exemplified the fact that the tide of African liberation cannot be set back. Genuine national independence for Namibia is therefore only a question of time.

YOUTH OFFICIAL THANKS SOVIET EMBASSY FOR GIFT

AB260811 Accra Domestic Service in English 2000 GMT 25 Aug 82

[Text] The Provincial National Defense Council, PNDC, has been urged to deal firmly with saboteurs in the society. The call was made in Accra today by the chairman of the National Youth Organizing Commission [NYOC], Mr Kwesi Aidoo, when he received 27,000 cedis worth of equipment from the Soviet Embassy. Agnes Asante gives the details:

[Begin recording] The equipment, which was presented by the Soviet Embassy to the National Youth Organizing Commission, was at the request of Komsomol, a youth organization of the Soviet Communist Party. The gift, which is made up of a duplicating machine, sports equipment and stencils, is worth $10,000, about 27,000 cedis.

Making the presentation, the second secretary of the Soviet Embassy, Mr Alex (Simitsev) noted that it marked the beginning of better things to come. He disclosed that his home country has invited the NYOC for detailed talks.

Mr Kwesi Aidoo, who received the equipment on behalf of the commission, expressed profound gratitude and promised to put the equipment to good use.

Touching on national affairs, Kwesi Aidoo accused those he described as disguised reactionaries in key positions posing as revolutionaries and progressists. He said this class of people are subtly sabotaging the revolution and urged the PNDC not to compromise with them but should instead deal with them accordingly. Mr Kwesi Aidoo also expressed regret at moves being made to get the IMF involved in the country's affairs and wonders why a revolutionary government should want to have anything to do with a reactionary body like the IMF. He remarked that the IMF thrives on exploitation and has never helped to improve the lot of the working masses anywhere in the world, especially on the African Continent. Mr Kwesi Aidoo said anywhere the IMF has gone the people have suffered untold hardships which result in industrial unrest and instability. He stressed that the IMF's involvement in the country's economic affairs will be a great setback for the workers in this country. [end recording]

MALI

COMMUNIQUE ISSUED ON MALAYSIAN MINISTER'S VISIT

AB221402 Paris AFP in French 1027 GMT 22 Aug 82

[Text] Bamako, 22 Aug (AFP) -- Alioune Blondin Beye, Malian minister of foreign affairs, and Mohamed Ghazali Shafie, his Malaysian counterpart, in Bamako on Saturday condemned Israel's "genocide" policy in Lebanon and reaffirmed their support for the PLO and SWAPO.

Mr Ghazali paid an official visit to Mali from 19 to 21 August and on this occasion made a donation of 10,000 tons of rice to the Malian minister of interior. The Malaysian minister visited Tomboucton and held discussions with Malian personalities.

"The two parties reaffirmed their desire to strengthen and diversify bilateral cooperation on the basis of Islamic solidarity," states the joint communique issued at the end of the discussions held by the two foreign ministers. Proposed topics for discussion will be examined during the next visit of the Malian minister of foreign affairs to Malaysia, the communique adds. Finally, a Malaysian mission will visit Mali very soon to identify projects for cooperation in all fields.

NIGER

REPORTAGE ON ICO MINISTERIAL COUNCIL MEETING

Chatti Press Conference

AB261100 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 25 Aug 82

[Text] Today, as every day since the beginning of the 13th session of the ministerial council of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], a press conference was held by Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Minister Daouda Diallo and ICO Secretary General Habib Chatti. Excerpts from this press conference:

[Begin Chatti recording] As you already know, no doubt, the conference continued its deliberations in plenary session. It then tackled its agenda consisting of the following points: appointment of the (?trade) committee, the technology and science committee and the information committee. These committees created by the press commission must be presided over by heads of state. The information committee will be presided over by the president of the Republic of Senegal, Abdou Diouf, while the technology and science committee will be presided over by His Excellency President Ziaul Haq of Pakistan. The third committee is being organized; we have contacted Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan of the United Arab Emirates and asked him to accept the chairmanship of this committee. We have not yet received his reply. We will set up this committee as soon as the reply is received.

In view of the impossibility of electing the members of these three committees, we have suspended this election and postponed it to our next session to take place in [word indistinct]. [passage indistinct]

We discussed an agreement of cooperation among the ICO member states. This agreement has been approved. We then discussed the problem of contributions to various funds. Some states have announced their voluntary contributions to these funds while others have promised to do so later by addressing a written note to the General Secretariat. We also have fixed the date of the next ordinary session which will be held in Dacca in Bangladesh. It was also agreed that the fourth ICO summit will be held in Morocco at about the same date.

Since most of the commissions have not completed their work, and to give the General Secretariat enough time to translate the commission's documents into the three languages and have them printed, the ministerial council will not meet this afternoon. It will await the completion of the commission's work and the translation, printing and distribution of the draft resolutions, decisions and reports. Our next plenary session will take place at 0900 tomorrow.

This morning we also examined the problem of the Sahel and we listened to the report of the rapporteur of the committee for solidarity with the Sahel. We also approved a resolution, the details of which will be supplied to you later. It is necessary to continue with the work already begun. This resolution was adopted by the committee for solidarity with the Sahel and does not need to be approved by this meeting. However, there was a resolution by this meeting that takes note of this resolution and approves it. As you know, the committee for solidarity with the Sahel emanated from the summit conference and does not need to have its decisions approved by the ministerial council. However, the ministerial council can take note of these decisions and express its satisfaction. This was what was done. [end recording]

Resolution on Iran-Iraq War

AB261222 Paris AFP in English 1210 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Niamey, Aug 26 (AFP) -- Morocco has reportedly proposed a resolution to the ministerial meeting of the Islamic Conference Organisation (ICO) here in a bid to end the Iraqi-Iranian conflict, sources said here.

Resolutions on the 23-month-old war were among the most pressing questions to be discussed today in the final hours of the 13th ministerial conference which opened on Sunday.

Assistant secretary of the United Nations, Issoufou Seydou Djermakoye from Niger, noted that because of the conference, Iran and Iraq -- both founder members of the ICO -- for the first time "have had the opportunity of talking face to face."

The resolutions of most interest to delegates concerned the Palestinian question, the situation in Lebanon and Afghanistan and the problem of Namibian independence from South Africa.

Conference sources said that the end of the meeting was likely to be delayed by a few hours because of the workload. Delegates attending the political commission sat throughout the night, while plenary discussions on the commission's work opened this morning. Most of the resolutions to be discussed in the final session were being translated into the conference's working languages of Arabic, French and English.

Observers noted that because the conference was the first international forum to be held since the Israeli offensive in Lebanon, resolutions were certain to condemn Israel's action, while the Palestine Liberation Organisation would win increased support from ICO member states.

Morocco's Boucetta Comments

AB261855 Paris AFP in French 1458 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Niamey, 26 Aug (AFP) -- M'hamed Boucetta, Moroccan minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, told AFP on Thursday that "the entire Arab world is now conscious of the need to adopt a common stand on the fundamental problem of the Palestinian issue."

Boucetta, who is attending the 13th ministerial session of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO] in Niamey, pointed out that the forthcoming Fes summit of Arab heads of state will draw up "a working plan, a plan of action in all the political and diplomatic fields, and these plans could also embrace other sectors."

Boucetta said he believes "all Arab countries, perhaps with the exception of only one, will be present at the Fes summit as well as at the preparatory meeting of foreign ministers to be held at Mohammedia on 28 August. He stressed that the ICO conference in Niamey was "very useful" as it enabled an increase of contacts between Arab ministers and the drawing up of "joint viewpoints."

The Moroccan foreign minister also recalled that as King Hassan II is chairman of the "Al-Quds" (Jerusalem) Committee of the ICO, Morocco must play an important role in the elaboration of the resolutions on Palestine.

On the Iran-Iraq conflict, Mr Boucetta pointed out that Morocco, within the frame-work of the ICO, has sent "an urgent appeal to the belligerents, asking them to see that this war is neither in the interest of the Iranian Islamic nation nor of Iraq." "We must end this war and open negotiations," he added.

Boucetta pointed out that by withdrawing its troops from Iranian territory, Iraq has "eased the tension since the last Islamic mediations."

He stressed that Morocco has "no intention or desire to mediate or offer itself as a mediator, but it supports all mediations, particularly those of the ad hoc Islamic conference committee," presided over by Guinean Head of State Ahmed Sekou Toure.

Finally, he revealed that the ICO session has adopted a resolution, "with Iran expressing reservations," which constitutes "an urgent appeal to stop this fratricidal war."

Statement on Namibia Day

AB261728 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] On the occasion of Namibia Day, Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization [ICO], today made an important statement. In his statement, approved by the 13th ICO session in Niamey, Chatti expressed happiness that the day is being marked while the ICO is holding its 13th session in the Niger capital.

This coincidence further illustrates the similarity between the struggles of our brothers in southern Africa and our Palestinian brothers in the Middle East. More than ever, we should strengthen and radicalize our common determination, of Africa and of the Islamic world, to pursue a merciless war against supporters of apartheid and Zionism. These two systems are a shame to humanity and the United Nations describes them as a real threat to world peace. The ICO, which is currently holding its 13th session, discussed in depth the situation in southern Africa and adopted important resolutions according the Namibian and Azanian people their legitimate rights to freedom and dignity.

The illegal occupation of Namibia by South Africa has clearly been demonstrated and yet the relentless allies of the Pretoria regime still continue to advance legal arguments to defend the indefensible. We seize this occasion of Namibia Day, the statement went on, to call on the Western countries once again, particularly through the contact group, to use all available means to make the South African regime see reason and accept the just claims of the Namibian people. The statement also calls on South Africa to implement the UN resolutions withdrawing its mandate over the territory. This pact of the Pretoria regime will continue to be the cause of a war which is intensifying daily, thus endangering peace in the region. The acts of aggression and looting of the apartheid troops in the neighboring countries are becoming too frequent and are taking alarming dimensions. These acts should urge us to find an urgent and final settlement of the Namibian issue.

The ICO take the opportunity of the closing of this session of its 13th ministerial meeting to reiterate its call for the strengthening of solidarity with the valiant Namibian people who are struggling against one of the most cruel systems in the world since the annihilation of Nazism. The brutes in Pretoria as well as those of Nazism have been condemned by history. It is only through concrete and well-defined action that we can bring the Pretoria regime to an end and ensure the victory of the Namibian and Azanian people.

Mali Minister's Closing Speech

AB262152 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1850 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Mali Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Blondin Beye closing speech at the Islamic Conference Organization session in Niger -- live]

[Text] "Thanks to Allah, the almighty, who permitted us to work so that our deliberations have been crowned with success. Mr Chairman, at this time, it is the desire of my African brothers, who have given me this happy privilege and great honor to take the floor on behalf of the Islamic African peoples, to thank Niger, the people of Niger and Government of Niger and their leader, Col Seyni Kountche, the chairman of the Supreme Military Council and head of state of Niger. I am executing this honorable duty with even more satisfaction because your country, Niger, is a friend and neighbor of my country. The legendary hospitality of the Sudanese-Sahelian people has been demonstrated to its fullest on this authentic African soil of Niger.

Yes, Mr Chairman, we did not lack for anything. We enjoyed all kinds of attentive care and sympathy both in the corridors of the hotels, in the elevators, in automobiles, within the walls of this jewel which is the magnificent congress palace and finally, in the streets of Niamey and Saye. Mr Chairman, speaking truthfully, for us Africans there is nothing surprising in all that we have seen and experienced. You have been able to translate in a concrete manner by deeds what all of us consider here in Africa as a duty, namely, respect for the foreign guest. From Algiers to Mogadishu, passing through all the African capitals you know, the words of welcome are the same everywhere: "Feel at home -- all that is in this house is yours." We are very grateful to Niger for faithfully responding to the calls of the continent. We are proud of Niger's spontaneous response and hospitality. We are proud of the manner in which you managed to direct our deliberations.

Mr Chairman, the spokesman of member African states of our organization has another reason for satisfaction -- the return of one of our member states, Sierra Leone, which has decided to resume its place, and the admission of Benin as a temporary observer, are the best gifts that Africa can offer as a duty at the African session of our organization. It is consoling to observe that our organization is more and more taking root in Africa.

Mr President, Muslim Africa, together with our sister, the Republic of Niger, have good reason to be proud of the positive results we have recorded. All these results perfectly correspond with the ideals and objectives of our organization. We accomplished these results thanks to our dynamic secretary general and his staff and I take the opportunity here to thank the typists, interpreters and translators who contributed in diverse ways to the success of our deliberations in a discreet way.

Mr Chairman, in calmness we have examined all aspects of the Middle East conflict, especially the very preoccupying situation created by the scandalous aggression of the Zionist entity against the valiant people of Lebanon and Palestine. Their bravery did not prevent us from self-criticism and deciding to be more concrete, more pragmatic and still more united. Our organization also did not fail to realize that those valiant Namibian fighters need to be supported through SWAPO, its sole and legitimate representative.

That our conference should start on a day when the valiant Palestinian fighters (?began) to leave Lebanon [words indistinct] and that the closing day of our conference should coincide with the day of solidarity with Namibia are coincidences that serve as symbols that mark the rightness of our cause.

Mr Chairman, our session also will not be disappointing to our peoples who are preoccupied with econmic and social development because these also occupied our attention. Without being satisfied with the great achievements of our organization and its specialized institutions and Afro-Arab institutions, our conference proceeded with an examination of appropriate procedures for executing the financial plan of action financed by the $3 billion announced in Say.

Mr Chairman, I must say that I was able to testify to the correctness of the title of the editorial in the reliable Niger daily newspaper THE SAHEL which this morning described our meeting as "historic." It is historic because of the seriousness, order and perfection of organization. It is historic because of the palpable results achieved. Finally, it is historic because of the very African hospitality, fraught with Muslim fervor. Who would not have been impressed that after the masterful speech that facilitated our deliberations, His Excellency President Seyni Kountche, with that simplicity which in no way diminishes the grandeur and pride of his (?compatriots) of this area, took it upon himself to receive personally the leaders of not less than 40 delegations, that is, all the heads of delegations, ministers and distinguished delegates. So is Africa, and the way Africa shows its friendship. People of Niger and leaders of Niger, you have been able to rise up to satisfy the expectations of your African brothers [words indistinct] to the Muslim brothers. On behalf of the Muslim community, I thank you. [applause]

SPA Wrap-Up

LD261338 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1117 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Niamey, 26 Aug (SPA) -- The 13th conference of Islamic foreign ministers ended its 4-day session at noon today.

The conference has issued more than 120 resolutions on the topics discussed. All of them relate to issues of interest to the Islamic world at this serious stage and the internal and external challenges being faced by the Islamic nation.

The conference condemned the continued hostile U.S. attitude toward the feelings and firm national rights of the Palestinian people. It stressed the necessity for a comprehensive withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all the occupied Palestinian and Arab territories, including Jerusalem. The conference also condemned the policy the U.S. administration is striving to impose on the region by means of the continued Israeli attacks on Arab territories and the Palestinian people, the constant support the United States gives to the Zionist entity in all fields and the U.S. veto of Security Council draft resolutions, thus perpetuating this policy, which is contrary to right, justice and the principles and Charter of the United Nations.

In this regard, the conference reaffirmed that Security Council Resolution No 242 of 1967 is not compatible with Palestinian rights and does not represent a good basis for solving the Middle East problem and the Palestinian issue. The conference instructed the Islamic states to work collectively to obtain a new resolution openly stipulating the withdrawal of Israel from all occupied Palestinian and Arab territories and recognizing the firm Arab rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to self-determination without any foreign interference and to establish their independent state under the leadership of the PLO.

The conference expressed its pride in and admiration of the heroic steadfastness of the forces of the Palestinian Resistance and the Lebanese people in the face of the Israeli force that invaded Lebanon. It reaffirmed its support for the Lebanese Government in its attempts and measures to implement the Security Council resolutions issued in connection with the withdrawal of the invading forces from Lebanon and to exercise maximum pressures on the Israeli enemy to compel it to halt its attacks. It also supported the Lebanese Government in its efforts to deploy the Lebanese Army and the Lebanese security forces to regain its sovereignty over all of Lebanon and to exercise its constitutional authority over its national soil.

Regarding the Iraqi-Iranian war, the conference expressed its appreciation for the Islamic Good Offices Committee's efforts to reach a just and an honorable settlement of the conflict between the two countries, to halt immediately the war between them and to see that their forces withdraw to the internationally recognized border. It announced its acceptance in principle of the creation of an Islamic observers force to ensure this, reaffirming the necessity to adhere to the international resolutions issued in this connection by the third Islamic summit and the Security Council. It called on all states concerned to refrain from actions that could contribute to the continuation of the Iraqi-Iranian conflict.

The Islamic foreign ministers conference decided to establish an Islamic office for the boycott of Israel at the conference General Secretariat within the next 3 months in order to cooperate with the Arab boycott office to implement the boycott decisions. It also decided to establish an Islamic office for military coordination with the PLO and the Islamic states to serve the holy war of the Palestinians and meet the PLO's requirements for military expertise and equipment.

The conference adopted a draft resolution calling for the suspension of Israel's membership in the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA] for its armed aggression against the Iraqi nuclear reactor and its continuing threat to such installations used for peaceful purposes. The conference urged Islamic countries to actively participate in the work of the 26th IAEA conference scheduled for 20 September and to emerge from this conference with the resolution suspending Israel's membership and the implementation of the third clause of the resolution by the general conference of the IAEA issued in this context.

The conference condemned racist regimes in Africa and other places, especially Zionism and apartheid. It expressed support for the armed struggle waged by the Arab people against Zionism in Palestine and by the South-West African People's Organization for independence, for the struggle of the people of South Africa and the national liberation movement of the people of South Africa aimed at eliminating racial discrimination and enabling this African people to exercise its basic rights and enjoy freedom and national independence.

Regarding the Afghan problem, the conference stressed the need to work for the immediate evacuation of all foreign forces from Afghanistan and to allow the peaceful Muslim Afghan people to exercise their rights to self-determination and choose the regime they want. The conference recommended that the ministerial committee consisting of the secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization and a number of Islamic foreign ministers continue efforts to reach a political settlement of the Afghan problem.

The final statement issued by the conference at the end of its work said that the foreign ministers approved the budget of the General Secretariat for the new fiscal year 1982-83.

SENEGAL

REPORTAGE ON ROK PRESIDENT'S VISIT 24-26 AUG

AB250851 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 24 Aug 82

[Excerpt] Korean President Chon Tu-hwan today arrived in Dakar on a 48-hour official visit to Senegal. He was received at the airport by President Abdou Diouf who was accompanied by the members of the government led by Prime Minister Habib Thiam. Members of the National Assembly and of the diplomatic corps and religious and traditional leaders also were present at the airport.

Presidential Talks

SK251244 Seoul YONHAP in English 1114 GMT 25 Aug 82

[Text] Dakar, Aug 25 (YONHAP) -- South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan and Senegalese President Abdou Diouf discussed issues of mutual concern Wednesday, including the promotion of bilateral economic cooperation, organization of national strength among developing nations, and the pursuit of a common stand against colonialism.

During a summit at the presidential palace here, the two presidents talked about the expansion of bilateral economic cooperation in the training of industrial manpower, the improvement of investment conditions, the encouragement of joint projects in private sectors, and the advancement of Korean enterprises into the free export industrial complex in Dakar.

During the two-hour-long conference, the two heads of state conferred about Korean participation in the development of Senegal's social overhead facilities, such as construction projects, maritime resources, irrigation, piped-water systems, roads, ports and railroads. They discussed Korean participation in Senegal's sixth economic development plan, which requires a total of 1.9 billion U.S. dollars, and in the double-tracking construction of Dakar's water supply system, estimated to cost 100 million dollars.

The two leaders also discussed Korean exports of rolling stock to Senegal, small and medium-sized joint investment, and the conclusion of pacts on the guarantee of investment and the prevention of double taxation between the two countries. In addition, they agreed to exchanges in political, cultural and sports fields.

Chon said he appreciated Senegal's support for the South Korean stand on the reunification of the Korean Peninsula in the international community and expressed satisfaction over the rapid increase in bilateral trade during the last ten years.

Touching on the current situation on the Korean Peninsula, Chon pointed out that North Korea is creating tension on the Korean Peninsula by continuing to pursue a policy to communize the south by force.

Chon, criticizing Pyongyang for defaming the Korean people as a whole by bringing the Korean question to international forums in defiance of the principle of self-determination by Koreans, stressed that Seoul's formula for reunfication is the most peaceful and realistic way.

In response to Chon's remarks, Diouf committed his full support to South Korea's consistent efforts to achieve peaceful unification of Korea.

The South Korean president promised his country's unconditional support to the efforts of the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity to eliminate the legacy of colonialism in the West Saharan region and Namibia.

The two leaders shared the opinion that developing countries in the Asian and African Continents should effectively organize their national strength against colonialism.

While the summit was being held, Korean and Senegalese ministers met to discuss details of bilateral cooperation.

Following the summit, the Senegalese president hosted a dinner for Chon.

The two presidents are expected to issue a joint communique Thursday before Chon ends his last official visit to four African nations.

Chon Press Conference

SK260212 Seoul YONHAP in English 0157 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Dakar, Aug. 25 (YONHAP) -- South Korean President Chon Tu-hwan, expressing satisfaction over the achievements of his 10-day swing through four African nations, said Wednesday that Africa has immense potential as an economic partner of South Korea.

In a news conference with Korean reporters on the eve of his departure from Senegal, the last stop on the four-nation tour which also included Nigeria, Kenya and Gabon, Chon said the leaders of the four nations expressed their desire to seek closer cooperation with Korea, showing interest in Korea's development experience during the last 20 years.

"As Korea has more advanced technology than African countries on the whole, Africa has an inexhaustible potential as a partner of cooperation with Korea in various fields," Chon said.

The Korean president stressed the need for instituting systematic arrangements under which Korea will be able to make "a steady contribution" to international cooperation.

"We intend to lay emphasis on helping develop the manpower and technology of other developing countries on the basis of our own development experience. By doing so, we will be able to promote mutually complementary relations with such countries," Chon said.

"Developing countries used to be passive objects of history in the past. They should now assume an active role as the protagonists of history," Chon said. "We live in an age of interdependence in which the poverty and sufferings of one country affect the prosperity and happiness of others."

He said developing countries should make a concerted effort to combat mankind's common enemies, such as poverty, disease and illiteracy.

Chon called on industrialized countries to make positive efforts toward enhancing human welfare, saying that the gap of wealth between the North and the South threaten world peace and stability.

On Wednesday morning, Chon conferred with Senegalese President Abdou Diouf. Following the talks at the presidential mansion, Chon and his wife Yi Sun-cha were the guests of honor at a luncheon hosted by the Senegalese leader.

The Korean president will leave Thursday for Las Palmas for two days of rest and visits with Korean fishermen before continuing on to Canada, the last stop on his five-nation tour.

Chon Departure; Communique

AB262104 Dakar Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] President Chon Tu-hwan left Dakar this morning. He was very happy with the cordial welcome and the hospitality accorded him and his delegation during his visit, which he described as memorable in a message just sent to President Abdou Diouf.

First, he said, I very much appreciated the personal contact I had with you, during which I shared your experiences and your wisdom in international relations. Although the visit was brief, it was a significant experience for me. It contributed very much, I am convinced, to strengthening relations of friendship and cooperation between our two countries. Please accept, Mr President and dear friend, my highest regards.

This African tour, as President Chon said before departing, marks the beginning of a new era of mutual cooperation between Africa and the ROK. He is right. Reading through the Senegal-ROK communique, we learn that both countries will continue to consult on implementing the cultural agreement signed in Seoul in 1979. To this should be added three other agreements concerning maritime transportation and the promotion of ivestment. They also decided to avoid double taxation. That is not all; Senegal and Japan [as heard] reaffirmed their committment to the need to promote true cooperation. This is why they planned to take concrete action that will enable the ROK to participate in the development of Senegal in the agricultural and industrial sectors. Thus, the ROK will take part in the fifth international trade fair in Dakar to be held next November. Senegal also will participate in trade activities in Korea. The two heads of state expressed happiness over the participation of the ROK in the African Development Fund and also expressed their hope that it will become a member of the African Development Bank, thus further strengthening existing cooperation between Senegal, Africa in general, and the ROK.

SWAPO REPRESENTATIVE DEPLORES AFRICAN DISPUTES

AB261649 Paris AFP in French 1407 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] Dakar, 26 Aug (AFP) -- Eddy Amkongo, SWAPO representative in Dakar, today deplored the failure of the Tripoli summit and the current division of Africa, which, according to him, could have serious consequences for aid by African states to liberation movements.

Amkongo also expressed fear that SWAPO might suffer the same fate as the PLO if the dissensions within the OAU were not solved.

He also said if negotiations for the settlement of the Namibian problem fail, the only way left for SWAPO is to intensify the armed struggle. According to him, these negotiations are obstructed by "South Africa's intransigence, the complicity of the Western contact group and the passiveness of the United States."

NIGERIA

KANO AMIR ASKS COOPERATION AGAINST CLASHES

AB261536 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] The amir of Kano, Alhaji Adu Bayero, has appealed to the people of the city to refrain from anything that could lead to the breakdown of law and order. The amir said that he had received reports of clashes within the Kano metropolis during the last 2 weeks. He therefore calls on them for cooperation with the law enforcement agents and to report any suspicious movements by individuals or groups of persons.

OBSERVER 'WORRIES' OVER BORDER CLASHES

AB261056 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Press review]

[Excerpt] Constant clashes over boundaries by some communities in the country worries the NIGERIAN OBSERVER. The paper notes that this unfortunate situation is the consequence of the partitioning of Africa by the imperialists.

The OBSERVER passionately appeals to all communities, especially those in Imo, Anambra, Rivers and Cross River States, to strive to live peacefully, adding that the Federal Government should set in motion the necessary machinery to reconcile communities fighting over boundaries.

MOZAMBIQUE

BEIRA CITIZENS GET WEAPONS TO FIGHT 'GANGSTERS'

EA261148 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 25 Aug 82

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Excerpt] The people of Beira today began receiving weapons. We received this dispatch from Beira:

In response to popular request, the resident minister of Sofala Province, Lt Gen Armando Guebuza, this morning distributed arms to democratic mass organizations to fight armed gangsters. This is the beginning of the arming of the people of Beira.

Defense and security authorities are undertaking intense work in the people's militia to ensure the improved defense of the people. Minister Armando Guebuza announced this during a people's rally this morning which was followed by a march of about 50,000 people. The people of Beira were expressing their support for President Samora Machel's 22 June 1982 speech.

Speaking about arming the people, the resident minister of Sofala Province urged improved organization. These weapons have the mark of history: They were captured from the enemy; they were enemy weapons and they must fight the enemy. Your duty now is to organize yourselves in the struggle against the armed gangsters, Lt Gen Armando Guebuza said. He also urged the democratic mass organizations to exercise greater responsibility in this action.

In his appeal to the people of Beira to increase vigilance in the fight against armed gangsters, Armando Guebuza revealed that, when they open fire, they do not bother to see if the train, village commune or farm contains their parents, brothers and other relatives. For this reason, we cannot be soft on them, no matter what the circumstances.

On the occasion, armed gangsters in the pay of the racist regime of Pretoria and captured by the Mozambique Armed Forces, FPLM, in operations in Sofala, were presented to the public.

SOUTH AFRICA

DEAD SOLDIERS IN ZIMBABWE IDENTIFIED AS RSA

AB270908 Paris AFP in English 0901 GMT 27 Aug 82

[Text] Johannesburg, Aug 27 (AFP) -- Three white soldiers killed in southeast Zimbabwe last week were members of the South African forces apparently on an unauthorised mission, Armed Forces Commander General Constand Viljoen said here last night.

Gen Viljoen told a press conference the dead men, all former members of the Rhodesian Army, seemed to have been hoping to set free political prisoners being held in a camp in southern Zimbabwe.

He said the three, Sergeant John Andrew Wessels, Robert Beech and David Berry, who were killed in the Sengwe communal reserve, had undertaken the operation because they were "bitter" about the situation in Zimbabwe. They were accompanied by 14 black soldiers, all former members of the old Rhodesian Army.

The general accused Zimbabwe authorities of twisting the facts surrounding the incident for propaganda purposes, to make it look as though South Africa was "determined to destabilise Zimbabwe."

SWAZILAND

QUEEN APPOINTS REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS

MB270639 Mbabane THE TIMES OF SWAZILAND in English 27 Aug 82 pp 1, 28

[By James Dlamini]

[Text] The queen regent Dzeliwe has approved the appointment of the first Tinkhundla [electoral system] regional administrators.

Last night the queen mother instructed the indvuna [Chief] general of the Tinkhundla, Mr Mndeni Shabalala, to announce the appointment of the four men to be in charge of the district Tinkhundla.

The announcement was made in the Lobamba royal residence. The four regional chiefs are: Prince Mbilini, Mr Sensenjani Tshabalala, Mr Sandanezwe Rhodes Nxumalo and Mr Abbie A. Mamba. The appointments are effective from October 1 this year.

The appointments were made in terms of the regional councils order of 1978.

Prince Mbilini is currently district commissioner in the Shiselweni district. Mr Tshabalala is deputy commission of prisons; Mr Nxumalo is district commissioner in Manzini and Mr Mamba is administrative manager for Tibiyo [royal trust fund] and also a former district commissioner for Hhohho[adminstrative district].

In terms of the order, a regional administrator "will have the same rights and priveleges as a deputy minister, but shall operate under a ministry to be determined." The queen regent may at any time remove an administrator and replace him.

The regional administrators will be responsible for the four regional councils still to be established. Each regional council will consist of members of the electoral college elected at a meeting of all Tinkhundla held in each district under the provisions of the parliament of Swaziland order, 1978.

The members of the electoral college shall continue to serve as such until all Tinkhundla have each elected two persons as provided by the order.

The functions of the regional councils to be manned by the four men will be: to coordinate national and economic activities at district level; implement national and government policies and projects at district and Tinkhundla level; liaise with the national council in all matters of policy affecting Swazi law and custom.

The Tinkhundia will report through the indvuna general to the government and the national council in all decisions arrived at by the Tinkhundla in each district; keep the government and national council informed of all major economic or political activities taking place within their districts; initiate and identify priority projects and the needs of the people residing in their districts in accordance with national development plans.

The duties and functions of the regional councils may be augmented from time to time by the cabinet. In consultation with the minister responsible for the Tinkhundla, the regional administrators may convene meetings.

The remuneration of members of the regional councils and any allowances payable to them will be separately appropriated to them as a charge on the consolidated fund.

The administrator will preside at all meetings of his regional council to which he has been appointed and shall have a casting as well as a deliberate vote. In the event of a regional administrator being unable to preside over regional meetings, the minister may appoint a member of the regional council to preside at the meeting.

ZAMBIA

KAUNDA READY FOR ANOTHER MEETING WITH P. BOTHA

LD231332 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 23 Aug 82

[Text] President Kenneth Kaunda of Zambia has expressed his willingness to have another meeting with the South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, in a search for a solution to achieve peace in southern Africa. Speaking in Lusaka in a television interview with a South African journalist, President Kaunda predicted that unless a peaceful solution was found soon there would be a bloody explosion in the region. He emphasized that contact with South Africa was vital so as to make the political leaders of that country aware that the time to find a solution in southern Africa had been reached.

President Kaunda and the South African prime minister, Mr Botha, had their first meeting on 30 April this year on no man's land between South Africa and Botswana. Commenting on the first meeting with Mr Botha, the Zambian president described it as useful, well-conducted, free and frank. He said he did not see any valid reason why success should not have been achieved from the meeting.

On the economic future of southern Africa, President Kaunda said African states recognize the potential of South Africa and would like that country to become a member of the Southern African Development Coordinating Conference, a regional economic organization which grouped a number of east and southern African states. President Kaunda went on to say that the black states would also welcome South Africa as a member of the Preferential Trade Area instead of the constellation of southern African states, as envisaged in the constitutional proposals of the South African Government.

Comments on Namibia Elections

CA241040 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 23 Aug 82

[Excerpts] President Kaunda of Zambia has expressed his willingness again to meet the South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, in an effort to avert a black-white conflict in South Africa. In a special interview with the South African journalist, Mr Al Venter, he said that contact with South Africa was vital in order to make the political leadership aware that time was running out to find a solution to the problems of South Africa.

On South-West Africa, he said that as soon as South Africa withdrew its forces from the territory and as soon as the United Nations peace force was in position, the SWAPO terrorists in Zambia and Angola would stop fighting. Asked what the Zambian reaction would be if SWAPO lost an election, he said that Zambia and the other countries which concern themselves with the South-West Africa question would accept the results of free and fair elections.

ZIMBABWE

DPRK ADVISERS REPORTEDLY TO RETURN IN SEPTEMBER

AB241327 Paris AFP in English 1207 GMT 24 Aug 82

[Text] Harare, Aug 24 (AFP) -- A contingent of North Korean advisers will return to Zimbabwe next month to finish training the army's 5th Brigade in the operation of tanks and artillery supplied by Pyongyang, senior military sources said.

The Zimbabwean sources said 31 of the approximately 130 North Koreans who left for home last month would return to Zimbabwe in September.

The Korean advisers first came to Zimbabwe in August 1981. They trained the 5th Brigade, nicknamed "Gokurahundi" or Whirlwind, in strict secrecy in the highlands of eastern Zimbabwe until June, when the brigade began moving to the midlands city of Gweru to take up a geographical area of responsibility in west-central Zimbabwe. The brigade is made up principally of former guerrillas loyal to Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

The military sources said the brigade's 5,000 men had received only six months' training on the North Korean-supplied, Soviet-made T-55 tanks and artillery pieces, as the rest of the time had been spent setting up the military camp and on general instruction. Since six months was considered insufficient, some of the Koreans were coming back to complete the training, the sources said.

Zimbabwe military authorities have emphatically denied British press reports that the Koreans were sent home in disgrace after leading the 5th Brigade in an unsuccessful offensive against anti-government guerrillas in neighboring Mozambique.

British instructors trained the other four infantry brigades of the 50,000-member Zimbabwean Army, whose chief, Lt-Gen Rex Nhongo, has just returned from a five-month command course in Pakistan. Gen Nhongo, like his deputy, Maj Gen Josiah Tungamirai, is a former Mugabe guerrilla.

Diplomatic sources in Harare say the British military assistance and training team (BMATT), which has about 75 instructors in the country, would be ready to supply further training for the 5th Brigade if asked to do so.

TWO MEN KILLED IN MOZAMBIQUE BORDER CLASH

LD220930 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 22 Aug 82

[Text] Another report from Harare says that two men -- a black and a white -- have been killed in a clash with the Zimbabwe National Army along the Zimbabwe-Mozambique border. The incident took place several kilometers south of Vila Salazar. The bodies of the two men have been taken to Harare and their fingerprints taken.

NKOMO ASKS FOR HELP TO FIND KIDNAPPED TOURISTS

MB260723 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 26 Aug 82

[Text] The leader of ZAPU, Dr Joshua Nkomo, has appealed to people in the Nkai District to assist government forces looking for the six abducted tourists so that they can be rescued alive. Dr Nkomo, who was addressing a rally in Nkai yesterday, said there is an indication that the missing tourists could still be alive. He said he has been told by officials of his party that the abducted tourists may still be alive and are around the border areas of Nkai and Lupane.

Dr Nkomo said two enumerators who are members of his party came across five armed bandits who are believed to be former members of ZIPRA. He said the bandits asked for money from the enumerators, saying that they wanted to feed some white people in their company who do not eat sadza [cornmeal porridge]. Dr Nkomo said he has briefed the minister of state in the prime minister's office, Comrade Munangagwa, on this development.

Meanwhile, a spokesman for the British High Commission in Harare says British diplomats are still hopeful that the six tourists are still alive.